

HB594 PAYMENTS MUNICIPAL CORPS/SCHOOLS BUSINESS LAYOFFS (Rep. Dan Ramos) Enacts section 131.46 of the Revised Code to provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction
STATUS: Introduced

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SENATE

SB3 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. Troy Balderson) To designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week
STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Passed by House, Vote 93-1; Senate concurs, Vote 32-0

SB5 INCREASING INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS (Sen. Jay Hottinger, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to college savings accounts and disability expense savings accounts to \$10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency
STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; Emergency clause, Vote 32-1

SB8 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sen. Randy Gardner, Sen. Louis Terhar) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security
STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days

SB9 AUGUST TAX HOLIDAY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes
STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately

SB10 PRIMARY ELECTION REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Frank LaRose) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election
STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Substitute bill accepted

SB15 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish

guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB17LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the General Revenue Fund each month

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB22INCORPORATING FEDERAL REVENUE CHANGES (Sen. Bob Peterson) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since February 14, 2016, into Ohio law

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective immediately

SB34SCHOOL YEARS (Sen. Gayle Manning) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB36AGRICULTURAL COMPUTATION (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB39COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB54SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB72PREVAILING WAGE LAW (Sen. Matt Huffman) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB79STATE DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE (Sen. Kris Jordan) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's

cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 24-9

SB82SCHOOL ABSENCES-PARENTAL NOTIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require a public school to place a telephone call within one hour of the start of the school day to a parent whose child is absent without legitimate excuse

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB85OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Sen. Matt Huffman) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB88SUBDIVISION COMMISSIONS-FISCAL EMERGENCY (Sen. Louis Terhar) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB97 REGIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE CREATION (Sen. Frank LaRose, Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB104 PROHIBIT SECLUSION USE-SCHOOLS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB105 MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month"

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee

SB111 SCHOOL ZONE SIGN LIGHTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights or that indicate the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB123 PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PROCESS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee

SB124 COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college and career and technical programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges' career certification programs

STATUS: Senate Finance Higher Education Subcommittee

SB133 STUDENT DISCIPLINE-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student's violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB140 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To create the Public-Private Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to develop, enhance, and promote educational programs to address regional workforce needs; to create the Sector Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to identify and provide grants to industry partnerships; to support programs that improve access to workforce training opportunities for students; to support economic development and revitalization programs; and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB149 ELECTION POLLING PLACES-SCHOOLS (Sen. Frank LaRose) Regarding the use of a school district building as a polling place for elections

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB151 SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS (Sen. Cliff Hite) To permit, rather than require, the School Employees Retirement System to grant annual cost-of-living adjustments to retirement, disability, and survivor benefit recipients and to reduce the maximum amount of the adjustment

STATUS: Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee

SB172 HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS RIGHTS (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act to require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB175 RECOVERED FUNDS-SCHOOL AUDIT (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB191 ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB196 AGGRAVATED BULLYING-OFFENSE CREATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor

STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB197 SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB199 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. Cliff Hite) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Introduced

SB203 MUNICIPAL TAX RULE REINSTATEMENT (Sen. Matt Dolan) To reinstate the municipal income tax "throw-back rule" used in apportioning business income among municipalities

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB209 PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS-TIF (Sen. William Coley, Sen. John Eklund) To modify the conditions that determine the relative priority of property tax exemptions when a parcel subject to a tax increment financing arrangement concurrently qualifies for another exemption

STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee

SB213 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PLAN (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To enhance economic and employment opportunities and improve local infrastructure in Ohio by providing additional assistance to workforce development and employment programs; establishing a revolving loan program for small businesses seeking to expand operations; extending job tax credits to smaller businesses; enabling expanded participation in public sector contracting by smaller companies; enhancing support for childcare centers; funding additional local infrastructure and public transit; authorizing tax incentives for hiring military veterans, for donating money to local programs assisting distressed communities, or for improving distressed property; exempting the homes of disabled veterans from property taxation; terminating the income tax deduction and reduced tax rate for business income; and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB216 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEREGULATION ACT (Sen. Matt Huffman) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee

SB225 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. John Eklund) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB226 SALES TAX HOLIDAY-SCHOOL SAFETY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax, to authorize a county school financing district property tax for school safety, security, and mental health services, and to declare an emergency

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective immediately

SB239 REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS (Sen. Matt Dolan) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee – Reported out; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB240 REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Sen. Peggy Lehner) With regard to teacher evaluations

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB241 ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY (Sen. Louis Terhar, Sen. Cecil Thomas) To establish a category of nonpublic schools called "accredited nonpublic schools" and to prescribe requirements and exemptions for such schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB246 STUDENT SAFETY ACT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Gayle Manning) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB258 AWARDING SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB262 EATING DISORDER EDUCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require public schools annually to provide parents of students in any of grades five through twelve with educational information regarding eating disorders

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB266 CAPITAL BUDGET (Sen. Scott Oelslager) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB276 EXPULSION OF STUDENTS (Sen. Jay Hottinger) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees

STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee

SB287 K-12 HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS (Sen. Vernon Sykes) To require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt health education standards for grades kindergarten through twelve and to require only venereal disease education standards and curriculum adopted by the State Board to be approved by concurrent resolution of the General Assembly

STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee

SB289 THREATS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE (Sen. Stephanie Kunze) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee

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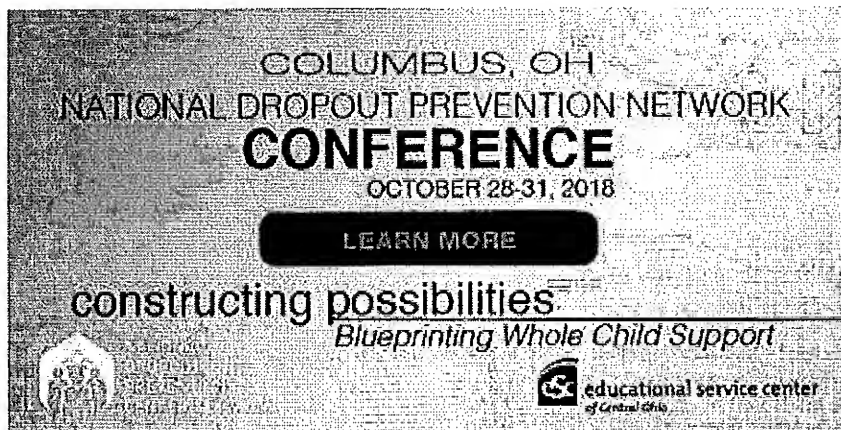


From: Joseph Weitz

Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:46 AM

Subject: Weekly Wrap 4/20/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio - State of
Preschool

Connect with us!



Week of April 20, 2018

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

JUMP TO A SECTION

FEATURED ITEMS

OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education

Joint Education Oversight Committee

School Finance & Budget

Education & Public Policy

Schools

Postsecondary & Workforce Development

Reports

NATIONAL/WORLD

Federal/U.S. Department of Education

Education Policy & Finance

Digital Convergence

English Learners
School Safety & Discipline
Social-Emotional Learning
Early Learning
Career & Technical Education
Career- & Postsecondary-Readiness
Curriculum
Literacy
STEM/STEAM
Transportation

OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE
House Bills
Senate Bills

FEATURED ITEMS

STATE OF PRESCHOOL REPORT RELEASED – *The National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers Graduate School of Education released its annual report, The State of Preschool 2017, based on 2016-17 school year data. Nationally, the report found that enrollment continued to increase but growth slowed. States invested more money than ever before in preschool, but state spending per child fell for the first time since 2014 (adjusting for inflation). Ohio boosted funding by more than \$4 million and expanded enrollment, serving 11% of 4-year-olds but less than 1% of 3-year-olds statewide after limiting eligibility to 4-year-olds. Enrollment of 3- and 4-year-olds in the state remains below the national average, however, and spending per child falls well below the national average.*

Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: The State of Preschool in the U.S. – US News & World Report

- More students are enrolling in state preschool programs than ever before as states continue to invest in them. But those increases are eclipsed by a slump in the rate of growth and in per-student spending, the latter of which is an important indicator of quality

The State of Preschool 2017 – National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers Graduate School of Education

- The State of Preschool 2017 annual report, based on 2016-17 academic year data, finds states heeding the demand for pre-K and expanding access to publicly funded programs in a variety of settings. But instead of supporting quality early learning with adequate resources, most state programs invest too little to help children catch up with their more advantaged peers by kindergarten
- See Ohio's profile [here](#)

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OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

Special-Needs Kids Learn to Avoid Harmful Drugs in Unique Program – Columbus Dispatch

- Launched in March in partnership with Columbus City Schools, Stop to Live is being touted by its creators and other advocates as the first in the United States to address substance-abuse prevention for special-needs children. Plans are to roll it out nationally next year

Franklin County Studying Ways to Solve ‘Alarming’ Poverty – Columbus Dispatch

- Concerned because so many in Franklin County live in poverty — one in four children, and one in six residents — despite a strong regional economy, the county’s commissioners are investing in a yearlong study to find solutions for the most vulnerable

The Big Short: Districts Lament Funding Cap – This Week

- Growing school districts -- rich, poor and anywhere in between -- often do not see the amount of funding the state’s formula prescribes. Instead, they run into a cap imposed by the Ohio General Assembly that limits the amount of money a district can receive from the state per year

District Leaders Respond to Funding Cap Questions – This Week

- ThisWeek asked central Ohio school-district leaders six questions about the state’s funding cap and how it affects their districts. Here’s what they told us

FutureReady Columbus: UA Resident Now at Helm of Advocacy Organization – This Week

- Jane Leach was named the new executive director of FutureReady Columbus March 22

BEXLEY CITY SCHOOLS

Pettit Taking on Oversight of District Technology – This Week

- Brad Pettit is scheduled to begin serving as the Bexley City School District’s new technology director June 6

BUCKEYE VALLEY LOCAL SCHOOLS

BV Schools: Haunted Hoorah Must Vacate by May 1 – Delaware Gazette

- The Buckeye Valley Local School District Board of Education (BOE) has given the owners of the Haunted Hoorah attraction notice to vacate the property at 530 E. Main St., Ashley, by May 1

CANAL WINCHESTER LOCAL SCHOOLS

CW Teachers Seek to Connect with Community – Columbus Messenger

- A group of Indian Trail Elementary school teachers in Canal Winchester are putting more community into community schools with informal presentations throughout the school district

CHILLICOTHE CITY SCHOOLS

Chillicothe City Schools Says Substitute Levy Key to Momentum – Chillicothe Gazette

- Chillicothe School Board President Steve Mullins believes one of the biggest selling points for the district's substitute tax levy on the May ballot is the possibility that, with passage, a renewal of the levy may not be necessary five years from now

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

After Delay, Columbus School Board Sells Indianola Building to Ohio State – Columbus Dispatch

- After a seven-month delay that resulted in a new contract influencing what happens in the future, the Columbus Board of Education sold its historic Indianola Middle School to Ohio State University Tuesday for \$2.35 million

DUBLIN CITY SCHOOLS

World-Class Education Goes beyond Test Scores – This Week from the Superintendent's Desk

- Todd Hoadley, superintendent of the Dublin City Schools, writes that their community has provided feedback on surveys and during their Profile of a Graduate work that performing well on standardized tests should not be their highest priority

FAIRBANKS LOCAL SCHOOLS

Fairbanks Considers Purchase of Propane Powered Buses – Marysville Journal-Tribune

- The Fairbanks School District is interested in purchasing propane-powered school buses for the 2018-2019 school year

GROVEPORT MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

GM Superintendent Search: Focus Groups Want Leader Who Will 'Deal Fairly' with All – This Week

- A series of focus-group meetings designed to help the Groveport Madison Board of Education choose the district's next superintendent produced "consistent themes," according to Kathy Lowery of K-12 Business Consulting

New Cruiser Softball Fields Will Have Synthetic Turf – Columbus Messenger

- The new softball fields at Groveport Madison High School will have a synthetic turf playing surface

HILLIARD CITY SCHOOLS

'Whole-Child' Approach Leads to Achievement, Results – This Week Hilliard Schools Connection

- John Marschhausen, superintendent of Hilliard City Schools, writes that their district leaders embrace the responsibility to provide more than an academic foundation for the students in their classrooms

OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS

Growing Olentangy District to Add Fourth High School in Fall – Columbus Dispatch

- What the more than 900 students will see on Aug. 15 when they enter Olentangy Berlin High School is the result of myriad decisions. Berlin's first principal, Todd Spinner, has spent the better part of a year hashing them out with the help of district officials

Olentangy School Board OKs Nearly \$800K in Textbook Upgrades – This Week

- Olentangy Local Schools will spend more than three-quarters of a million dollars on new social-studies textbooks for middle and high school students

OLSD Adopts New Social Studies Resources – Delaware Gazette

- The Olentangy Local School District Board of Education has approved a plan that will give the schools' secondary social studies curriculum an overhaul

Orange Principal Now with OSBA – Sunbury News

- A former central Ohio school administrator and teacher with more than 20 years in education has joined the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as its deputy chief executive

SOUTH-WESTERN CITY SCHOOLS

Career Education Gives Graduates Real Plans for Future – This Week South-Western Subject Matter

- Amy Schakat, coordinator of career-technical programs for South-Western City Schools, writes that each student enrolled in a CTE program graduates from high school with a clear career plan

Middle School Building Plan Moving Forward – Columbus Messenger

- Recently, the \$260 million project was marked as completed and now district officials and its OFCC partners are gearing up for the second portion of a continuing build project

UPPER ARLINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

Upper Arlington Teachers, School Board Agree on 3-Year Contract – Columbus Dispatch

- The agreement, which the school board unanimously approved Monday night, covers 518 employees. It goes into effect this summer and expires in June 2021

WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

Westerville School District Entering Next Facility Phase – This Week

- The Westerville City School District is moving forward with plans to renovate Westerville South High School and fund districtwide safety and security initiatives

WHITEHALL CITY SCHOOLS

Whitehall School Board Member Resigns, Citing Other Responsibilities – Columbus Dispatch

- Joy Bivens announced during a board meeting last week that she will resign effective April 23

Bivens Leaves Whitehall School Board, Cites Job Commitments – This Week

- Whitehall City School District leaders are acting swiftly to appoint a successor to school board Vice President Joy Bivens after her April 23 resignation

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Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education

Revised Ohio Standards for Principals Open for Second Round of Public Comment – ODE

- The Ohio Department of Education, with guidance from an advisory workgroup of principals, superintendents and others, has made draft revisions to the Ohio Standards for Principals to better reflect the roles and

responsibilities of today's building leaders. The Department posted an initial draft for public comment in late February

Technical Outage Sidelines State Academic Testing – Hannah

- A vendor's technical problems snarled state testing administration Wednesday, in the middle of the period when schools are offering academic assessments

Vendor Fixes Online State Testing System; Completion Deadline Extended – Columbus Dispatch

- Ohio's online standardized test system should be ready to use again Thursday after a technical problem shut it down Wednesday, the Ohio Department of Education says

Early Childhood Budget Revisions Due May 1 – ODE

- Programs should be reminded that all budget revisions are due by May 1. A budget revision is necessary if any cost to a given category increases or decreases by 1 percent or more after the budget has been approved

State-Funded ACT Testing Dates for 2018-19 School Year Are Now Available – ODE

- As part of their state testing programs, ACT has provided the test dates for the 2019 administration of the state-funded tests. Districts and schools can use all standard time paper testing windows, as well as the online window, to administer all standard time ACT tests

New Options Available for Ohio's High School Equivalence Test – ODHE

- Ohioans now have three testing options for earning a certificate of high school equivalence. The Ohio Department of Education approved GED, HiSET and TASC as the official testing companies for adult learners to use to earn the certificate of high school equivalence, generally considered to be the equivalent of a high school diploma

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Joint Education Oversight Committee

School Assessment Data Vendor Explains, Defends Growth Data to JEOC – Hannah

- Data about how students improve in their education year-over-year can be vitally important to schools, teachers and others, helping them identify where schools are exceeding statewide expectations or falling short of them. But, how that information is used, categorized and presented is largely shaped by state policy

Value-Added Reporting in Ohio – SAS

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Ohio School Finance & Budget

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Grants – Ohio EPA

- Applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed until the available \$5 million in funds have been allocated. Any additional applications received after all funds are allocated will be placed on a waiting list

The Big Short: Districts Lament Funding Cap – This Week

- Growing school districts -- rich, poor and anywhere in between -- often do not see the amount of funding the state's formula prescribes. Instead, they run into a cap imposed by the Ohio General Assembly that limits the amount of money a district can receive from the state per year

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Ohio Education & Public Policy

Toward a New Ohio – John Glenn College of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University

- The purpose of this project is to help frame the debate for Ohio's next governor by laying out the challenges facing Ohio's economy and seeking candidates' proposals for addressing them

DeWine to Focus on Opioids, Skills Gap 'Like a Laser' – Hannah

- Attorney General Mike DeWine said the two biggest issues facing Ohio are the opioid crisis and a skills gap for students, and said he would focus on those two issues from day one as governor "like a laser"

Cordray Outlines Plan to Expand Access to PreK – Hannah

- Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray Monday outlined his platform to expand access to pre-kindergarten, including creating a central office in his administration

Should School Districts Get an A-F Grade? State Report Card Overhaul Debated – Cleveland Plain Dealer

- The state's report cards are coming under fire on two fronts this spring, which could wipe out their A-F grades and force the state to rate schools and districts very differently

Few Major Issues Left to Deal With, Senate President Says – Hannah

- The Senate president said he's unsure if his chamber will take action on graduation requirements for the class of 2019

Senate Deregulation Proposal to Set Reduction Target, 2-for-1 Rule – Hannah

- State agencies would need to cut 10 percent of their regulations three years in a row, and would face a regulatory attrition mandate if they fail to do so, under legislative plans outlined Wednesday

House Proposal Ties E-School Funding to Data on Students' Participation – Hannah

- Two representatives are wading into the debate on how online charter schools should substantiate the education they're providing to students, with the introduction of a bill Thursday to require use of technology to measure attendance, class size and participation

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Ohio Schools

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Grants – Ohio EPA

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Ohio Postsecondary & Workforce Development

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Ohio Reports

The State of Preschool 2017 – National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers Graduate School of Education

- The State of Preschool 2017 annual report, based on 2016-17 academic year data, finds states heeding the demand for pre-K and expanding access

to publicly funded programs in a variety of settings. But instead of supporting quality early learning with adequate resources, most state programs invest too little to help children catch up with their more advantaged peers by kindergarten

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NATIONAL/WORLD

Federal & US Department of Education

Betsy DeVos Seeks Private School Vouchers for Military Families – US News & World Report

- Federal education officials are exploring a new benefit that would give military families additional resources for their children's schooling – despite the fact that the proposal faces significant opposition from within the military community itself, where it is largely seen as costly and ineffective

Expanding Pathways to Success After High School, U.S. Department of Education Approves First Innovative EQUIP Experiment – USDOE

- The U.S. Department of Education announced today that Brookhaven College, part of the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD), is the first to receive final approval to enroll students in the Educational Quality through Innovation Partnerships (EQUIP) experiment. Experimental sites, like this one, give the Department flexibility to waive specific statutory or regulatory requirements associated with disbursing Title IV student aid in order to assess the efficacy of innovative educational solutions

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Education Policy & Finance

Could Schools Be Doing More with Title I Money? – EdWeek

- A new nationwide study of the \$15.8 billion Title I program suggests that, while the more holistic approach has allowed school and district leaders to support a broader array of staff and interventions for students in poverty, school leaders often do not receive the training and information needed to make the most of the grant's flexibility

Study of Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Programs: Final Report – USDOE/AIR

- This study examined how schoolwide programs (SWPs) use their flexibility to design schoolwide services and strategies to address the needs of students who are low achieving and compare these practices with those used by targeted assistance program (TAP) schools. Specifically, the data collected for this study provide insight into the types of services that are supported by Title I funds in SWP and TAP schools, the decision-making processes that inform the use of funds, and the extent to which Title I funds are consolidated or coordinated with other funding sources to support improved student outcomes

Here's How the Public Views Teachers, Their Salaries and Their Impact – EdWeek

- As the political fallout continues from teacher protests in several states, it's worth revisiting how the general public has said it feels about teachers in recent polls. Where does public opinion stand now, and how might it change in the future?

Gates Foundation Eyes Middle Years Math Instruction – EdWeek

- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has signaled one of its new focus areas: improving "middle years" math for black, Latino, and low-income students and strengthening the teaching of the subject

Costly Pension Plans Are Fanning the Flames of Teacher Unrest – EdWeek

- Across the country, teachers are walking out of their classrooms to fight for higher pay. But in Kentucky, where teachers' pension benefits take the place of Social Security, educators are more anxious about the future of the state's underfunded pension system—and furious at elected officials for letting it get to this point

The Teaching Force Has Grown Faster Than Student Enrollment—Except in These 4 States – EdWeek

- Over the past two decades, the number of the teachers in U.S. schools has increased by 21 percent, while the number of students has only increased by 12 percent, according to an Education Week Research Center analysis of federal data

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Digital Convergence

Digital Instructional Materials: Acquisition Policies for States – SETDA

- The Digital Instructional Materials Acquisition Policies for States (DMAPS) is an online database providing state and territory policies and practices related to the acquisition of digital instructional materials in K12 education. This work supports state and district leaders' understanding of state policies related to procuring instructional materials to best meet the individual needs of students and can potentially impact policy changes. In addition, publishers of instructional materials, technology developers, and investors can learn more about the relative friendliness of states to encourage innovation with respect to digital instructional materials

Technology Counts 2018 – EdWeek

- To better understand where the ed-tech pressure points are for principals, the Education Week Research Center conducted a nationally representative survey of 500 principals, assistant principals, and other school leaders. Technology Counts 2018 incorporates that data in the report, while taking a hard look at what principals are thinking and doing about some of the most vexing technology issues in their schools

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English Learners

Unlocking Learning II: Math as a Lever for English Learner Equity – Education Trust West

- Second in a series exploring English learner equity in California schools, a new report from The Education Trust—West highlights how students learning English are faring in math classrooms across the state. Unlocking Learning II: Math as a Lever for English Learner Equity provides real-world examples of schools and districts closing gaps for California's English learners

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School Safety & Discipline

New Research Suggests Practical Ways to Make School Discipline, Access Equitable – EdWeek

- Sometimes small changes in how school districts approach policy—including how behaviors are labeled, which interventions schools are offered, and how teachers are trained to use them—can help break down the school-to-prison pipeline and put disadvantaged students on a better academic trajectory

Michigan's Gov. Snyder Releases School Safety Plan – Mlive.com

- Gov. Rick Snyder unveiled a broad set of strategies Monday designed to improve school safety, including strengthening security systems and training to help staff identify and support students with emotional and behavioral needs

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Social-Emotional Learning

Supporting Social-Emotional Learning with Evidence-Based Practices – Annie E. Casey Foundation

- This brief shares nine strategies for implementing and sustaining evidence-based programs to support students' social and emotional health

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Early Learning

Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: The State of Preschool in the U.S. – US News & World Report

- More students are enrolling in state preschool programs than ever before as states continue to invest in them. But those increases are eclipsed by a slump in the rate of growth and in per-student spending, the latter of which is an important indicator of quality

The State of Preschool 2017 – National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers Graduate School of Education

- The State of Preschool 2017 annual report, based on 2016-17 academic year data, finds states heeding the demand for pre-K and expanding access to publicly funded programs in a variety of settings. But instead of supporting quality early learning with adequate resources, most state programs invest too little to help children catch up with their more advantaged peers by kindergarten

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Career & Technical Education

Career and Technical Education Programs in Public School Districts: 2016–17 – USDOE/IES/NCES

- This report is based on the 2016–17 survey Career and Technical Education Programs in Public School Districts and provides nationally representative

data on career and technical education (CTE) programs. The survey defines a CTE program as a sequence of courses at the high school level that provides students with the academic and technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions

Career-Tech-Ed Students: As Conscientious and Hardworking as Their Peers – EdWeek

- Students who take a lot of career-and-technical-education classes in high school are hard workers who are less likely than their peers to skip class, a new study shows. Issued Tuesday by the American Enterprise Institute, the paper takes on the stigma of career-tech-ed students as "unmotivated, uninterested in academics, and unfocused"

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Career- and Postsecondary-Readiness

When Disadvantaged Students Overlook Elite Colleges – The Atlantic

- Many poor, minority high-schoolers don't apply to top institutions even though they could get in—a decision that can have lasting consequences

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Curriculum

Gates Foundation Eyes Middle Years Math Instruction – EdWeek

- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has signaled one of its new focus areas: improving "middle years" math for black, Latino, and low-income students and strengthening the teaching of the subject

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Literacy

Personalized Texting to Parents Can Bump Reading Skills in Their Kindergartners – THE Journal

- One recent research project out of Stanford University studied the effects of a text-based program specifically for parents of kindergartners, in which general texts were tested against more differentiated and personalized messages. The study found that children in the second group read at higher levels compared to the control group. Also, parents were more engaged in reading activities with their kids

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STEM/STEAM

Extra Comp Sci Lessons Associated with Higher Assessment Scores – THE Journal

- Students who did extra computer science activities in transdisciplinary modules scored higher on reading comprehension exams, as well as Florida standardized test in science and English and language arts (ELA), according to preliminary results from a new study

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Transportation

Schools Pursue Better Directions – District Administration

- Districts save money when they plan more efficient bus routes

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Ohio Legislation Update

(Recent bill action in RED. Signed into law by Governor in GREEN.)

HOUSE

HB3 DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Christina Hagan) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations

STATUS: House Finance Committee – Reported out

HB8 PUBLIC RECORDS-MINORS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To exempt from the Public Records Law certain information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee – Reported out

HB14AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline and to expand how a voter may register or update their registration through the online voter registration system

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee

HB21COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee

HB24VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Timothy Ginter) - To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property, to make appropriations and otherwise provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs, and to declare an emergency

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective immediately

HB37SCHOOL SAFETY-STRUCTURES (Rep. Steve Arndt) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB40GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Dave Greenspan) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

Status: House State & Local Government Committee

HB47STUDENTS IN MILITARY (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB49OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget

STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective July 1, 2017

HB51DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE (Rep. Keith Faber) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to

require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended

HB53PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: House Finance Committee

HB58CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Marilyn Slaby) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee

HB66UNDERGRAD MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE (Rep. Ron Young) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee

HB69LEVY REVENUE REIMBURSEMENT (Rep. Bob Cupp) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district

STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days

HB74INCREASE COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to the state's 529 college savings program from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per beneficiary per year

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB77SICK-CHILD CARE LICENSURE (Rep. Wes Retherford) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers

STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee

HB80SCHOOL FOOD-SUMMER INTERVENTION (Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Kent Smith) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

HB87 COMMUNITY SCHOOL PUBLIC MONEYS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee

HB89 AUGUST SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB98 CAREER INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Kristin Boggs) Regarding the presentation of career information to students

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective after 90 days

HB102 SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To replace locally levied school district property taxes with a statewide property tax and require recipients of certain tax exemptions to reimburse the state for such levy revenue lost due to those exemptions; to increase the state sales and use tax rates and allocate additional revenue to state education purposes; to repeal school district income taxes; to require the Treasurer of State to issue general obligation bonds to refund certain school district debt obligations; to create a new system of funding schools where the state pays a specified amount per student that each student may use to attend the public or chartered nonpublic school of the student's choice, without the requirement of a local contribution; to eliminate the School Facilities Commission; to eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program, Pilot Project Scholarship Program, Autism Scholarship Program, and Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program; to eliminate interdistrict open enrollment; to require educational service centers to transport students on a countywide basis; and to permit school districts to enter into a memoranda of understanding for one district to manage another

STATUS: House Finance Committee

HB103 FISCAL EMERGENCY PROVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective October 17, 2017

HB108 INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT ACT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of financial literacy in the high school curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act"

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended

HB110 COLLEGE CREDIT APPRENTICESHIPS (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Bill Dean) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Bill amended

HB118 TAX COMPLAINT DISMISSAL (Rep. Derek Merrin) To expressly prohibit the dismissal of a property tax complaint for failure to correctly identify the property owner

STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0

HB124 VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TAX LEVY (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To authorize a joint vocational school district to submit the question of a renewal tax levy to voters who did not have an opportunity to vote on the levy at an election held in November of 2015 because the levy was only placed on the ballot in one of several counties in which the district has territory

STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately

HB129 SCHOOL EXTERNSHIPS-GOVERNOR (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require the Governor to complete a forty-hour externship consisting of on-site work experience in city, local, and exempted village school districts in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years

STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee

HB134 SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To allow community improvements board grants to a school district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district

STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended

HB163 PREVAILING WAGE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Craig Riedel) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee

HB166 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke, Rep. Bob Cupp) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB170 COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Mike Duffey)

With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; and to authorize public schools to establish computer science and technology funds

STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days

HB176 SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended

HB179 IMMIGRATION LAW COMPLIANCE (Rep. Candice Keller) To require state and local authorities to cooperate with the federal government in the enforcement of immigration laws, to prohibit a local government that fails to do so from receiving certain state funds, to provide for the removal of officers of a local government that fails to do so, and to declare an emergency

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee

HB181 ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT STANDARDS (Rep. Ron Hood, Rep. Tom Brinkman) With regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB186 COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Gary Scherer) To enact the "Blair Deduction" to allow an individual obtaining a postsecondary degree or credential from an eligible educational institution to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB200 OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Koehler, K) - To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended

HB203 YOUTH SUMMER JOBS INITIATIVE (Barnes, Jr., J) - To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Bill amended

HB217 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS-DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee

HB220 NONPUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS (Rep. David Leland) With regard to the use of funds by community schools and nonpublic schools

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB224 RE-SERVING SCHOOL LUNCH ITEMS (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB227 LICENSE PLATE-KENSTON LOCAL SCHOOLS (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To create the "Kenston Local Schools" license plate

STATUS: House Transportation & Public Safety Committee – Reported out as amended

HB235 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT PROCEDURE (Rep. Theresa Gavarone) Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee

HB237 MULTICOUNTY LOCAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To require a political subdivision with territory in more than one county that places an issue on the ballot to notify the board of elections of every county in which the political subdivision has territory, to require the Secretary of State to establish a database to facilitate communication between the boards of elections and the Secretary concerning local elections, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee

HB240 RESPECT YOUR DATE ACT (Barnes, Jr. J) To enact the "Respect Your Date Act" to designate the month of April as "Respect Your Date Month" and to require each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy regarding dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and rape on campus and to declare an emergency

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Reported out as amended

HB242 SCHOOL RETIREMENT-COST OF LIVING (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding School Employees Retirement System annual cost-of-living adjustments

STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB246 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY CLASSROOMS (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide

funding to certain county boards of developmental disabilities to assist in the acquisition of classroom facilities

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB262 INDEPENDENT BUDGET PROCESS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Mark Romanchuk) To provide for the preparation of a state biennial budget independent of that submitted by the Governor and to authorize the Legislative Service Commission, upon the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, to arrange for an independent actuarial review of a proposed bill, specified analyses of economic policy initiatives and state benchmarking data, and a study of the state's long-range financial outlook

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee

HB298 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SICK DAYS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees

STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee

HB312 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Dave Greenspan) Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB318 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINITION (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers

STATUS: Passed by House as amended on Floor, Vote 89-1

HB322 SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANS (Rep. Adam Miller, Rep. Bernadine Kent) To revise the law regarding emergency management plans and school safety drills; to require each educational service center to employ an emergency response planner; to make an appropriation; and to declare an emergency

STATUS: House Finance Committee

HB337 TEXTBOOK SALES TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee – Reported out as amended

HB338 BUS DRIVER MEDICAL EXAMS (Rep. Tim Ginter) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

HB342 LOCAL TAX ISSUES-ELECTION DATES (Rep. Derek Merrin) To permit local tax-related proposals to appear only on general and primary election ballots

and not on an August special election ballot and to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Reported out as amended

HB343 PROPERTY VALUE CONTEST-RESOLUTIONS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each contest and to notify property owners

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Ways & Means Committee

HB360 ANTI-BULLYING AND HAZING (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To enact the "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and public colleges

STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 69-27

HB361 PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINTS TIMEFRAME (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To increase the time within which boards of revision must decide property tax complaints

STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Bill amended

HB363 CAMPUS FREE SPEECH (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To enact the "Campus Free Speech Act" with respect to the freedom of speech and assembly at state institutions of higher education and the charging and allocation of student activity fees

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee

HB369 PER PUPIL FUNDING GUARANTEE (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To prescribe a per pupil funding guarantee for certain school districts and to make an appropriation

STATUS: House Finance Committee

HB377 CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EDUCATION (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Dan Ramos) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB378 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT (Rep. Ryan Smith, Rep. Jack Cera) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 85-11

HB383 CHILD CARE HEALTH & SAFETY RISKS (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding parental notice of serious risks to the health or safety of children receiving child care

STATUS: House Community & Family Advancement Committee – Reported out

HB396 STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation

STATUS: House Finance Committee

HB399 HEALTH INSURANCE SAVINGS INCENTIVES (Rep. Michael Henne, Rep. James Butler, Jr.) To enact the Ohio Right to Shop Act to require health insurers to establish shared savings incentive programs for enrollees

STATUS: House Health Committee

HB413 PERS ADJUSTMENT-DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES EMPLOYEES (Rep. Gary Scherer) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) annual cost-of-living adjustments granted to allowance and benefit recipients and PERS service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities

STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee

HB418 SCHOOL RECORDS TRANSFER (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To require a public or chartered nonpublic school to transmit a student's records within five business days when the student transfers to another school

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB426 SCHOOL SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with certain students

STATUS: House Criminal Justice Committee

HB428 STUDENT RELIGIOUS LIBERTIES ACT (Rep. Tim Ginter, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) Regarding student religious expression and to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2018"

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB432 STUDENT LOAN OMBUDSMAN & LICENSURE (Rep. Kristin Boggs, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require student loan servicers to be licensed by the Division of Financial Institutions and to create the position of student loan ombudsperson in the Division of Financial Institutions to provide assistance to student loan borrowers

STATUS: House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee

HB438 ESC ANNEXATION (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions

STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee

HB442 SCHOOL ATHLETICS-F1 VISA (Rep. Niraj Antani) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB443 MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To require school district boards of education to incorporate mental health instruction into their health education curricula

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB449 CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR RATINGS-UNIVERSITIES (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. John Patterson) To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university

STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Substitute bill accepted

HB477 ELIMINATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS (Rep. Kyle Koehler) To eliminate various provisions and programs related to the Department of Education and the operation of primary and secondary schools

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out

HB487 RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL-COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To eliminate the right of first refusal for community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics schools in the acquisition of school district real property

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB488 PROPERTY TAX LEVY-BALLOT LANGUAGE (Rep. Ron Hood, Rep. John Becker) To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB491 SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS-SPECIFIED SERVICES (Rep. Jay Edwards) To require the State Board of Education to issue a substitute license to specified pupil services personnel

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out as amended

HB502 YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING-PUBLIC (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to educator in-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in public schools

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB503 YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING-PRIVATE (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to educator in-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in private schools

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB508 OHIOCORPS PILOT PROJECT (Rep. Scott Ryan, Rep. William Reineke) To establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 90-4

HB512 CONSOLIDATE CAREER-EDUCATION GOVERNANCE (Rep. William Reineke) To establish the Department of Learning and Achievement; to abolish the Department of Higher Education, the position of the Chancellor of Higher Education, and the Ohio Board of Regents; to transfer, with exceptions, the duties regarding the administration of primary and secondary education programs and all duties regarding the administration of higher education programs to the Department of Learning and Achievement; and to prescribe certain duties regarding educator licensure, community school sponsorship, and other education programs for the State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Department of Education

STATUS: House Government Oversight & Accountability Committee

HB517 MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. David Leland) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month."

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB524 529 CONTRIBUTIONS IN OTHER STATES (Rep. Gary Scherer, Rep. John Patterson) To expand the income tax deduction allowed for contributions to Ohio's 529 college savings program to include contributions to 529 programs established by other states

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB526 VOLUNTEER SCHOOL SECURITY (Rep. Anthony DeVitis, Rep. Martin Sweeney) To authorize a public or chartered nonpublic school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to prevent or respond to a mass casualty event, to provide the parties with a qualified immunity from civil liability, and to provide a tax credit for volunteer service

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB529 CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS (Rep. Scott Ryan) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18)

HB538 TAXES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND INCREASE (Rep. Jack Cera, Rep. John Rogers) To increase the proportion of state tax revenue allocated to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.53% beginning July 1, 2019

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

HB540 TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Rep. Theresa Gavarone, Rep. Nathan Manning)
With regard to teacher evaluations

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB544 STATE BOARD-ADOPT SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Rick Perales) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB547 PERS- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SCHOOL EMPLOYEE (Rep. Jay Edwards) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of development disabilities

STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee

HB549 SCHOOL OPENINGS-AFTER LABOR DAY (Rep. Steve Arndt) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee

HB559 IMMUNIZATION-SCHOOLS (Rep. Anne Gonzales, Rep. Al Landis) To make changes to the law governing immunization of children enrolled in school, preschool programs, and day-care programs

STATUS: House Health Committee

HB572 PERS- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SCHOOL EMPLOYEE (Rep. Gary Scherer, Rep. Stephanie Howse) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities

STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee

HB591 STATE REPORT CARD REVISIONS (Rep. Mike Duffey) To revise the state report card rating system for school districts and public schools

STATUS: Introduced

HB594 PAYMENTS MUNICIPAL CORPS/SCHOOLS BUSINESS LAYOFFS (Rep. Dan Ramos) Enacts section 131.46 of the Revised Code to provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction

STATUS: Introduced

HB603 IN-STATE TUITION-MILITARY SERVICE (Rep. Rick Perales) To grant residency status for in-state tuition purposes at state institutions of higher education to all military service members who are on active duty and to their spouses and dependents

STATUS: Introduced

HB605 OVERTIME LAW EXEPTION (Rep. Brigid Kelly, Rep. Kent Smith) To raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law

STATUS: Introduced

HB609 EXPULSION-THREAT OF VIOLENCE (Rep. Jim Hughes) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

STATUS: Introduced

HB611 ONLINE SCHOOL PAYMENT (Rep. Keith Faber, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To condition payment from the Department of Education to an Internet or computer-based community school on the school's use of automatically verifiable software that tracks attendance, class size, and participation

STATUS: Introduced

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SENATE

SB3 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. Troy Balderson) To designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Passed by House, Vote 93-1; Senate concurs, Vote 32-0

SB5 INCREASING INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS (Sen. Jay Hottinger, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to college savings accounts and disability expense savings accounts to \$10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; Emergency clause, Vote 32-1

SB8 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sen. Randy Gardner, Sen. Louis Terhar) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days

SB9 AUGUST TAX HOLIDAY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately

SB10 PRIMARY ELECTION REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Frank LaRose) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Substitute bill accepted

SB15 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the General Revenue Fund each month

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB22 INCORPORATING FEDERAL REVENUE CHANGES (Sen. Bob Peterson) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since February 14, 2016, into Ohio law

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective immediately

SB34 SCHOOL YEARS (Sen. Gayle Manning) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB36 AGRICULTURAL COMPUTATION (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB39 COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB54SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB72PREVAILING WAGE LAW (Sen. Matt Huffman) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB79STATE DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE (Sen. Kris Jordan) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 24-9

SB82SCHOOL ABSENCES-PARENTAL NOTIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require a public school to place a telephone call within one hour of the start of the school day to a parent whose child is absent without legitimate excuse

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB85OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Sen. Matt Huffman) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB88SUBDIVISION COMMISSIONS-FISCAL EMERGENCY (Sen. Louis Terhar) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB97 REGIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE CREATION (Sen. Frank LaRose, Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB104 PROHIBIT SECLUSION USE-SCHOOLS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB105 MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month"

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee

SB111 SCHOOL ZONE SIGN LIGHTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights or that indicate the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB123 PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PROCESS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee

SB124 COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college and career and technical programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges' career certification programs

STATUS: Senate Finance Higher Education Subcommittee

SB133 STUDENT DISCIPLINE-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student's violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB140 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To create the Public-Private Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to develop, enhance, and promote educational programs to address regional workforce needs; to create the Sector Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to identify and provide grants to industry partnerships; to support programs that improve access to workforce training opportunities for students; to support economic development and revitalization programs; and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB149 ELECTION POLLING PLACES-SCHOOLS (Sen. Frank LaRose) Regarding the use of a school district building as a polling place for elections

STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB151 SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS (Sen. Cliff Hite) To permit, rather than require, the School Employees Retirement System to grant annual cost-of-living adjustments to retirement, disability, and survivor benefit recipients and to reduce the maximum amount of the adjustment

STATUS: Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee

SB172 HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS RIGHTS (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act to require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals
STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB175 RECOVERED FUNDS-SCHOOL AUDIT (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school
STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee

SB191 ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools
STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB196 AGGRAVATED BULLYING-OFFENSE CREATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor
STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB197 SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor
STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB199 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. Cliff Hite) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation
STATUS: Introduced

SB203 MUNICIPAL TAX RULE REINSTATEMENT (Sen. Matt Dolan) To reinstate the municipal income tax "throw-back rule" used in apportioning business income among municipalities
STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB209 PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS-TIF (Sen. William Coley, Sen. John Eklund) To modify the conditions that determine the relative priority of property tax exemptions when a parcel subject to a tax increment financing arrangement concurrently qualifies for another exemption
STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee

SB213 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PLAN (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To enhance economic and employment opportunities and improve local infrastructure in Ohio by providing additional assistance to workforce development and employment

programs; establishing a revolving loan program for small businesses seeking to expand operations; extending job tax credits to smaller businesses; enabling expanded participation in public sector contracting by smaller companies; enhancing support for childcare centers; funding additional local infrastructure and public transit; authorizing tax incentives for hiring military veterans, for donating money to local programs assisting distressed communities, or for improving distressed property; exempting the homes of disabled veterans from property taxation; terminating the income tax deduction and reduced tax rate for business income; and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB216 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEREGULATION ACT (Sen. Matt Huffman) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs

STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee

SB225 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. John Eklund) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB226 SALES TAX HOLIDAY-SCHOOL SAFETY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax, to authorize a county school financing district property tax for school safety, security, and mental health services, and to declare an emergency

STATUS: Signed by Governor (3/30/18) – Effective immediately

SB239 REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS (Sen. Matt Dolan) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments

STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0

SB240 REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Sen. Peggy Lehner) With regard to teacher evaluations

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB241 ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY (Sen. Louis Terhar, Sen. Cecil Thomas) To establish a category of nonpublic schools called "accredited nonpublic schools" and to prescribe requirements and exemptions for such schools

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB246 STUDENT SAFETY ACT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Gayle Manning) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior

intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB258 AWARDING SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB262 EATING DISORDER EDUCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require public schools annually to provide parents of students in any of grades five through twelve with educational information regarding eating disorders

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB266 CAPITAL BUDGET (Sen. Scott Oelslager) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

SB276 EXPULSION OF STUDENTS (Sen. Jay Hottinger) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB287 K-12 HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS (Sen. Vernon Sykes) To require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt health education standards for grades kindergarten through twelve and to require only venereal disease education standards and curriculum adopted by the State Board to be approved by concurrent resolution of the General Assembly

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

SB289 THREATS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE (Sen. Stephanie Kunze) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

STATUS: Senate Education Committee

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Joe Weitz

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ESC of Central Ohio

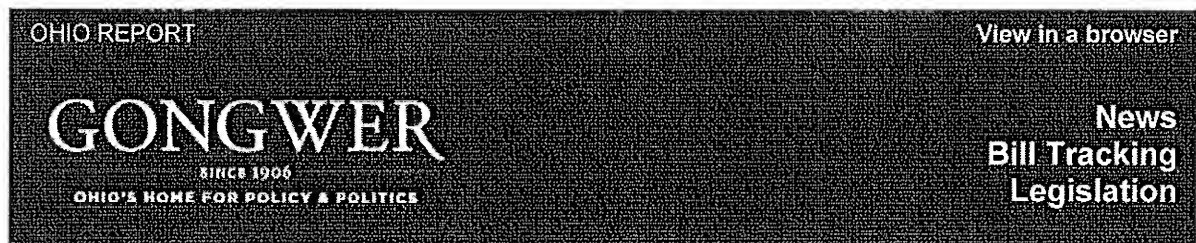
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From: Gongwer News Service
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Subject: Ohio Report, Friday, April 20, 2018
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OHIO REPORT FRIDAY, APRIL 20

**Energy Standards Bill Timeline Unclear As Another Wind Setback
Proposal Is Introduced**

State Unemployment Drops To Lowest Level In More Than 16 Years

**Senator Backing Medical Marijuana Audit Bill Supports Review By
Commerce Department**

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OPA: Pharmacists Can Serve As Educators In Opioid Struggle

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Sheehy Calls For Further Action On Ag Runoff; OEC Proposes Toxic Chemical Protections

Ohio Lands \$26 Million In Federal Opioid Funding; Senators Applaud Disaster Request Approval...

Chamber Of Commerce Endorses Issue 1; P&G, Key, More Report Financial Results; Toledo Businesswoman Added To SBAC

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Event Planner

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Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, April 21- Monday, April 23

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Monday, April 23

Controlling Board, North Hearing Rm., Senate Bldg., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.
Human Trafficking Commission, 18th Fl., 150 E. Gay St., Columbus, 2 p.m.

Event Planner

Saturday, April 21

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse,
Columbus

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Volume #87, Report #77 -- Friday, April 20, 2018

Energy Standards Bill Timeline Unclear As Another Wind Setback Proposal Is Introduced

Senate President Larry Obhof this week referred to ongoing talks over the state's energy standards and wind turbine setback revisions as "a long-term project."

The remark lends further uncertainty to the timeline in which Senate Republicans hope to roll out a substitute bill on a measure (HB 114) that in its current form waters down the state's renewable and energy efficiency benchmarks.

Earlier this month, Sen. Obhof had predicted a sub bill could be ready "in the next few weeks." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2018)

But asked this week about the Senate's priorities in the coming weeks, Sen. Obhof (R-Medina) said: "We've talked a number of times about energy, and particularly 114 probably now is a long-term project."

Sen. Obhof had previously labeled the measure a priority for the first part of the year but the timeline has been pushed back at every juncture as lawmakers grappled with a congressional redistricting ballot issue (SJR 5), the capital budget (HB 529) and other pressing proposals.

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) and Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) are spearheading talks on that sub bill but have said the timeline and the extent of the changes to the legislation remain unclear. The caucus has yet to reach a consensus on the plan the senators presented behind closed doors last month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 23, 2018)

Changes to loosen the state's setbacks for wind turbines are expected to be a component of the sub bill and advocates have continued pressing lawmakers in recent weeks to walk back restrictions put in place in a 2014. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 12, 2018)

Rep. Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) on Tuesday introduced his own standalone measure to reduce setbacks (HB 604). His plan joins several other legislative efforts to accomplish that feat, including proposals from Sen. Matt Dolan (SB 238) and Sen. Michael Skindell (SB 184).

The minority leader's proposal would require turbines to be no closer than 1,125 feet from the tip of a turbine to the exterior of the nearest habitable residential structure. Current law, in contrast, measures the distance from the structure's property line.

The measure would also make permanent tax exemptions for tangible personal property of a qualified energy project using renewable energy resources under certain conditions.

Trish Demeter, the Ohio Environmental Council's vice president of energy policy, welcomed the latest attempt.

"I applaud Leader Fred Strahorn for proposing HB604 - a bill which if passed, would pave the way for full scale wind development in Ohio," Ms. Demeter said.

"For too long, Ohioans have missed out on trends towards wind energy due to unnecessarily large setbacks from property lines. Fixing the wind setback issue is critical for further development of wind energy across the state, and bringing Ohio up to speed in the growing clean energy economy."

State Unemployment Drops To Lowest Level In More Than 16 Years

Ohio's unemployment rate dropped a notch to 4.4% in March, maintaining a positive trend of recent months and reflecting the best report since August 2001, according to the Department of Job and Family Services.

The March rate was a drop from 4.5% in February 2018, the agency reported. Total employment increased 10,800 over the month to 5,579,200, and the number of unemployed was down 9,000 to 253,000.

The unemployment total has dropped by 40,000 since March 2017, when the rate was 5.1%, and the state has seen an increase of 54,400 jobs during that period, according to state data compiled in conjunction with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Another strong jobs report out today," Gov. John Kasich stated on his Twitter account. His statement was accompanied by a GIF of actor Chuck Norris giving a thumbs-up.

"Since 2011, Ohioans have created 501,000 new private sector jobs, and unemployment is the best it's been since 2001," Mr. Kasich said. "We've come a long way since 2010. Let's keep it going, Ohio!"

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said the number of new private jobs reflected an important milestone for the state. The positive news shows the GOP-run legislature's policies are working, he said.

"We work diligently to not only create an environment of possibilities for Ohio's job creators but also to ensure Ohioans from all backgrounds are prepared to take advantage of those opportunities," Sen. Obhof said in a release.

"We've done this through creating a jobs-friendly business environment, developing a jobs-ready workforce and empowering Ohio's small businesses, the backbone of our economy. While this is an important milestone that shows Ohio's policies are working, we have much more to do, and we will continue to build on this progress."

Despite the recent gains, Ohio still lags the nation, as the U.S. unemployment rate for March was 4.1%. That figure was unchanged from February and down from 4.5% in March 2017.

During a month when most sectors saw job gains, the best performers were the private service-providing sector, which added 5,700 positions, as well as trade, transportation, and utilities (+3,400). ODJFS noted the most significant losses in information (-700) and other services (-500).

Agency spokesman Bret Crow said eight industries or sub-sectors experienced record-high employment levels. They are: transportation, warehousing and utilities; finance and insurance; educational and health services; educational services; health care and social assistance; leisure and hospitality; accommodation and food services; and state government.

The March gains in the construction industry, which was up 1,200 jobs, represented the third consecutive month of steady job growth in the sector, which has gained 5,700 jobs over the last year, Mr. Crow said.

In addition, the state versus federal comparison on job growth favored Ohio, as the state added jobs at a rate that was more than double the national rate, or 0.19% versus 0.07%, he said. And the average weekly earnings for Ohioans is up \$3.14 compared to last month and \$28.45 compared to last year, both outperforming the national rate.

"It's an across-the-board positive report with lower unemployment and new job growth that doubled the nation's," Mr. Crow said.

Andrew J. Kidd, senior economist with the Economic Research Center at The Buckeye Institute, said the latest jobs report shows "Ohio's job market is allowing individuals who desire jobs to get jobs."

"However, Ohio has yet to reach the national unemployment rate of 4.1%, he added. "This, as well as a labor force participation rate lower than the national average, shows that Ohio still has work to do. The right reforms, such as closing tax loopholes and removing unnecessary barriers to employment through occupational licensing, would create opportunities for sustained job growth."

"Ohio in 2018 has experienced positive job growth. Yet, another month of an unchanged labor force participation rate once again implies that some individuals are still not searching for jobs," Mr. Kidd added.

Hannah Halbert, researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, said the state has gained more jobs in the first three months of 2018 than in all of 2017.

"While labor force participation suggests there is still room for improvement, Ohio's labor market is finally tightening," she said. "Even so, many jobs pay too little and offer too-few hours, making it nearly impossible to afford basics like food and health care without

public support. Raising the minimum wage, restoring the 40-hour work week, and supporting paid leave would make the most of this tighter labor market and help rebuild a path to the middle class."

Ms. Halbert said Ohio continues to underperform the nation's 12-month rate for job growth and has "vastly underperformed" the rest of the U.S. since the 2005 tax overhaul was enacted.

"Ohio is not out of the woods. A bad month or two could erase this streak and more months of solid growth are needed to take up the remaining slack in our labor market," she said.

Senator Backing Medical Marijuana Audit Bill Supports Review By Commerce Department

A senator who sponsored legislation to require an audit of the medical marijuana licensing process said he's supportive of efforts by the Department of Commerce to perform its own review.

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) introduced a proposal (SB 264) in February to require a state auditor investigation of DOC's awarding of provisional licenses for medical marijuana growers, including a set timeframe for the review and the awarding of certificates of operation.

It was intended to remove any clouds of suspicion or impropriety from the licensing process, the sponsor said. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 22, 2018)

That measure had its first hearing this week in the Senate Health, Human Services & Medicaid Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 17, 2018)

Since February, DOC and other agencies involved in the medical marijuana program have worked to tamp down expectations for the initiative's Sept. 8 go-live date, saying it's unlikely all license recipients will be operational by then. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 5, 2018)

The agency worked with an attorney general-appointed special counsel to hire a third-party auditor to review the scoring and find possible improvements. The department reported Friday that Ernst & Young was retained for the work, which does not have a set deadline for completion but is expected to take "a matter of weeks" to finish.

Sen. Coley complimented the department on that effort and said the goal of his legislation is simply to ensure the state has a fair process.

"You could easily argue that they're already doing those things," he said in an interview. "I want to make sure it gets done and it gets followed through."

He encouraged the department to work with the auditor's office to ensure the process is thoroughly reviewed.

"I support Commerce going through and looking at the whole thing, re-scoring if necessary and awarding additional licenses if warranted," he said. "I think that's all a good thing and it would be for the benefit of all patients and the state of Ohio."

Sen. Coley said he's confident the department will correct any issues.

"I think they realize that some mistakes were made and they want to correct them," he said.

DOC will go before the Controlling Board Monday to request more than \$5 million for staffing, legal costs and other expenses for the medical marijuana program. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 16, 2018)

High Court To Hear Traffic Camera Case

The battle over automated traffic cameras will continue next week with the latest front being the Ohio Supreme Court.

The city of Toledo and the state are at odds over a previous budget (HB64, 131st General Assembly) provision that allows the state to reduce Local Government Fund distributions for non-compliance with traffic camera restrictions (SB342, 130th General Assembly), some of which were struck down by the high court. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 26, 2017)

Ten days prior to the traffic camera restrictions becoming law, the city asked for and received an injunction from the Lucas County Common Pleas Court, the high court reported.

Lawmakers then passed the biennial budget containing the LGF reduction provisions. The city again asked for and received an injunction from the trial court, which found the state would be in contempt if it withheld funding from cities based on non-compliance with a law found to be unconstitutional.

The Sixth District Court of Appeals upheld the ruling, leading to the state appeal to the high court, where it argues the budget provision is a reporting requirement and a formula for discretionary spending. (Docket)

"Toledo has no 'home rule' right to receive money from the General Assembly," the state writes in a brief. "It is not 'losing' money that it has, but rather choosing to give up money in order to run its traffic-camera program as it sees fit."

The state also contends that the city should have been required to file a separate lawsuit in the matter and that the injunction is a violation of separation of powers.

"The Sixth District's holding invades the legislative power and exceeds the judicial power because courts do not have roving license to enjoin legislation," the state argues. "Courts must instead draw the power to block legislation from specific constitutional prohibitions."

The city, however, claims that lawmakers are seeking to coerce compliance with unconstitutional laws.

It also argues that the state is the guilty party when it comes to the violation of separation of powers.

"If the General Assembly could simply ignore the judicial branch any time legislation is struck by withholding funds to those entities that do not comply with the unconstitutional legislative acts, then there is no separation of powers because the legislature would reign supreme," the city writes in its brief.

"This type of legislation is not a 'new' law that merits a separate lawsuit and separate constitutional analysis, but moreover an affront to the authority of the judiciary. The Penalty Provisions try to avoid judicial control by reenacting unconstitutional laws."

The case is slated for oral arguments as another measure (HB 410) authored by the primary sponsor of the 2014 law works its way through the General Assembly.

Rep. Bill Seitz's (R-Cincinnati) legislation would eliminate the use of administrative hearings when a civil citation is issued for a traffic violation recorded by a photo-monitoring device and require local governments that use traffic-monitoring devices to annually file a report with the tax commissioner detailing how much revenue is generated from their use which will then be subtracted from the LGF distribution.

The court will hear three other cases next week:

- In *State v. Dunson*, a Montgomery County man convicted of murder and aggravated robbery will ask the justices to set aside \$6,199 in court costs.
- The court in *East Manufacturing v. Testa* will determine if a Portage County company is eligible for a use tax exemption for the purchase of natural gas it uses to heat six buildings where aluminum truck trailers are constructed.
- A bank will argue that despite federal rules requiring a face-to-face meeting with a borrower after three missed mortgage payments prior to proceeding with a foreclosure it should be allowed to move forward because the meeting occurred during court-ordered mediation after the second attempt to foreclose in the case of *Wells Fargo Bank v. Burd*.

Candidates Stress Experience In House District 26 Primary

A Columbus City School Board member and a law clerk with a background in youth advocacy each say their breadth of experience make them the ideal candidates for the 26th House District.

The Democrat-leaning district is currently represented by Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus), whose bid for the Senate is opening the path for a new face. Michael Cole, 45, and Erica Crawley, 37, are both working to secure the Democratic nomination, after which the victor will likely face Republican Shareeque Sadiq in November.

Mr. Cole said he has a track record of "having gotten things done in the most tough circumstances" thanks to his two terms on the school board.

"It's one thing when the whole deck's lined up for you and you're accomplishing some things of the work and will of people," he said. "It's another to have every kind of almost insurmountable obstacle against you whether it's state, federal, local discontent for something and still move the needle of achievement."

Ms. Crawley, while touting her own experience, credits her desire to enter public office to her great aunt who in 2007, shortly before her death, asked her during a conversation on political leaders, "Why not you?"

"She was never elected, never interested in politics per se, but she gave her time," Ms. Crawley said. "She spent a lot of time with the church, with homeless families. She never met an enemy. People loved my aunt and she loved people. I would hope she would be proud of me if I could be half the woman she was and make the impact she made."

Mr. Cole is originally from Cleveland but first came to Columbus as a student at Ohio State University. "This city kind of had me at hello," he said.

He picked up a master's degree in communication at Seton Hall University and then chose to return to Columbus where he sought out service opportunities including a five-year stint as area commissioner in Westgate.

"The opportunity and potential that this city offers I think is tremendous," Mr. Cole said. "I think it was almost a spiritual calling to end up in this city."

He said he worked on neighborhood safety and beautification issues, before segueing into politics and hosting a public affairs radio show. He was first elected to the school board in 2013 and reelected last year. He's currently vice president of the board, which is dominated by Democrats.

"I came with the mindset of working to ensure and strengthen accountability, curriculum, transparency and safety in the district," Mr. Cole said. "I'm committed to bringing that same mindset to the Statehouse."

Even though it contains solely Democrats, he said, the school board has taught him valuable lessons.

"Even if everyone's on the same page from the politics standpoint everyone brings different points of view, skills, knowledge and attitude," Mr. Cole said. "Working among a body politic making decisions and brokering decisions...on matters that effect people is something I've tremendously learned from this experience."

Ms. Crawley is also a transplant, hailing originally from Youngstown. She spent 2000-2003 serving in the United States Navy in Virginia. After giving birth to twin girls - Hope and Faith, who are now 13 - she moved to Cleveland where she finished her college degree in criminology with a focus on juvenile delinquency.

Next was a stint in Atlanta where she received her masters and had an array of jobs centered on supporting youth including work for the Black Child Development Institute and the Court Appointed Special Advocate program.

She returned to Columbus where she attended Capital University Law School, graduating in 2017 with a concentration in civil litigation. Following that, she clerked for Honda North America and since 2016 has clerked for Eastman and Smith's Columbus office.

Both candidates list education as a central plank of their platforms. For Ms. Crawley that means ensuring equal access to quality education.

"I am an advocate for universal Pre-K," she said. "But also making sure all of our children have the same opportunities. Addressing school funding and school resources definitely plays a part."

She said she also wants to expand trade school options for young students and to focus on economic development.

"Especially in the 26th District there is disinvestment and underinvestment in that community," she said. "I would love to focus on micro-business and small businesses and making sure my neighbors have access to those resources."

She added she'd press for equal access in other areas, such as healthcare, including addiction and mental health support services.

"With that, making sure our aging population has the services they need," Ms. Crawley added. "There are a lot of grandparents taking care of their grandchildren and they don't have the resources necessary to do that effectively."

On the education front, Mr. Cole said he wants to restore consistency, including possibly by requiring five-year curriculum plans. He likened his experience on the board to being Harry Houdini locked in a box with the key inside as he's thrown over Niagara Falls.

"I find out a lot of what confines public schools period...is they are all boxed in by state laws that don't take consideration to how certain things affect us," he said. "From funding to property taxes to education and curriculum and how important it is to make sure it's steady, consistent."

In other areas, Mr. Cole said he wants to alleviate property tax burdens and create more opportunities for mixed income housing.

"I think there are any number of ways we can look at funding public education that doesn't solely fall on the backs of property owners, particularly in poor communities," he said. "I think we can do some income tax sharing. ... I think there are some win-wins. We just have to turn over some stones."

Ms. Crawley said she's the candidate voters should turn to if they seek experience thanks to a career and life experience span the spectrum from nonprofit to for-profit, military and civilian.

"I've had a commitment to being of service to others," she said. "If you look at my career either professionally or in volunteerism...I have always had a commitment to making a difference in the communities in which I lived and making a difference especially for individuals who come from poverty or low-income families."

Mr. Cole and his wife Lee have three children, ages 21, 15 and 14. He is a substitute social studies teacher who enjoys motorcycles and muscle cars.

In addition to spending time with her daughters, Ms. Crawley said she collects books, particularly of the professional development variety or autobiographies.

Subscribers Note: *This story is part of a series focusing on key primary races for Ohio legislative seats. See Gongwer's Election Page for more information on 2018 contests, including our Key Races.*

OPA: Pharmacists Can Serve As Educators In Opioid Struggle

From asking customers to question potentially counterfeit pills to teaching them how to dissolve old medication in cat litter or coffee grounds, Ohio's pharmacists have a key role in fighting the state's opioid epidemic.

That was the message from officials with the Ohio Pharmacists Association to the nearly 1,000 pharmacists and students who attended the group's 140th annual conference and trade show Friday at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Ernie Boyd, executive director of the OPA, said pharmacists and the public need to "keep the pressure on" to get patients to request other medications and medical professionals to write fewer prescriptions for opioids.

Mr. Boyd said over-the-counter drugs can be a fine alternative to prescription opiates. He said he thinks it was a "major mistake" to allow ibuprofen and other anti-inflammatory or pain-relief medication to be sold without a prescription.

"In the public's mind, (ibuprofen) is as innocuous as cheese or rutabaga because it's sold next to those products," he said. "I think that's insane. These are very potent drugs."

The public tends to believe prescription drugs inherently are more effective and over-the-counter drugs safer, Mr. Boyd said, adding that's not always the case.

The convention included a demonstration of multiple ways people can dispose of old or unneeded medication, from using specialty kits to mixing it with water and coffee grounds or cat litter to make it unpalatable to animals and children. Mr. Boyd said pharmacists can explain the importance and methods of disposal and serve on local drug task forces to assist in the opiate fight.

The group also advised pharmacists to explain the importance of avoiding medication from potentially dubious sources, whether it be an acquaintance or an online retailer.

"The large majority of internet sites are (fraudulent)," Mr. Boyd said. "Ninety-eight percent of the online pharmacies are not pharmacies at all. They're fake."

He said counterfeit pills may look virtually indistinguishable from pills produced by the actual manufacturer and could include powerful opioids such as fentanyl and carfentanil. The consequences of consuming the bootleg drugs range from addiction to death.

Dr. Michael Ybarra, deputy vice president of advocacy and strategic alliances at PhRMA, said the public needs to get medicine from a trustworthy source. He said buying from "rogue online pharmacies" can be a dangerous move.

"The safest thing to do is to buy at a pharmacy," he said. "The U.S. distribution system is totally closed (with) FDA inspected facilities."

Mr. Boyd said there are some legitimate online pharmacy sites, which typically feature the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites logo and have a pharmacy domain names.

The most important advice for members of the public, Mr. Boyd said, might simply be to stop using medication that was not prescribed to them.

"You just don't share any of the stuff, period," he said."

Medical Pot Program Halt Rejected; Complaint Against DeWine Dismissed; No New Trial For Beck; Buckeye Institute Weighs In On Case...

A Franklin County judge on Friday declined to put the state's medical marijuana program on hold.

Instead, Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge Richard Frye will consider the matter again at a May 11 hearing.

"We're pleased that there's been a decision not to pause the program," said Thomas Rosenberger, a spokesman for the National Cannabis Industry Association of Ohio.

The Friday hearing was a result of a lawsuit filed by Ohio Releaf LLC, which was denied a cultivator's license and subsequently sued the Department of Commerce for what it alleges is a failure to comply with public record laws and to hold a timely administrative appeal hearing.

DOC has hired an independent auditor to review its processes. (*See separate story*)

Dismissed Complaint: A three-judge panel has dismissed one of four counts of allegedly violating canons of the Ohio Judicial Code of Conduct filed against Ohio Supreme Court Justice Patrick DeWine.

The count alleges that Justice DeWine asked Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters, who had 48 cases pending before the court at the time the complaint was filed, to hire his son for an internship.

The remaining allegations involve Justice DeWine's father, Attorney General Mike DeWine. The complaint alleges Justice DeWine improperly failed to recuse himself from cases in which AG DeWine is named as a party and that he appears on his father's gubernatorial campaign web site.

Justice DeWine has denied all of the alleged charges.

New Trial: The nation's highest court has declined to order a new trial for a former state lawmaker.

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to grant the request of former Rep. Peter Beck for a new trial. The decision was issued without comment.

Mr. Beck in 2015 was found guilty of 13 charges and sentenced to serve four years in prison. However, a state appellate court in 2016 overturned 10 charges and Mr. Beck served just 16 months in prison.

Amicus Brief: The Buckeye Institute has filed an amicus brief with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals asking it to strike down a Tennessee law it says discriminates against outdoor advertisements and signs with ideological messages.

The group said the law, which is designed to be in compliance with the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, is a violation of the First Amendment.

"While we all enjoy a scenic drive and beautiful roadways, the First Amendment is even more precious to Americans and its protections must not be violated in the name of highway beautification," President and CEO Robert Alt said in a statement. "Restricting the placement of outdoor advertisements solely based on the sign's message is a clear infringement of free speech and must be overturned."

Crew Dispute: Major League Soccer and the Precourt Sport Ventures, owner of the Columbus Crew, have asked the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas to dismiss a lawsuit designed to prevent the team from moving to Texas.

In a motion to dismiss, the groups call the Art Modell law "blatantly unconstitutional."

"The statute violates the dormant Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution because it both discriminates against out-of-state residents and impermissibly interferes with the defendants' abilities to conduct their business in interstate commerce," the filing reads.

The law requires the owner of an Ohio professional sports team that plans to cease playing most of its home games in the state to provide six months' notice in order to give others an opportunity to purchase the franchise

Disciplinary Cases: The Board of Professional Conduct on Friday announced that it has filed 10 disciplinary case reports with the high court.

Issue 1 Backers Tout Endorsements; Cordray Takes Credit For Wells Fargo Fine; Yuko Calls For Action On Guns...

The bipartisan Coalition for Redistricting Reform, the group backing Issue 1, on Friday announced a slew of endorsements for the ballot measure.

The endorsements include the Ohio AFL-CIO, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Council of Churches, the Ohio Education Association, the Ohio Environmental Council, the Ohio Farm Bureau and the NAACP Ohio Chapter.

Campaign advisor Keary McCarthy in a statement said the endorsements "truly signal the bipartisan nature of fixing the way we draw our congressional districts in Ohio."

"Our state lawmakers stepped up to make this bipartisan fix to a very partisan problem a reality, and I'm thrilled to see these powerful groups across Ohio come aboard," he added.

Wells Fargo: Richard Cordray on Friday weighed in on the news that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau fined Wells Fargo \$1 billion.

The bureau's former director in a statement sought to downplay the role that acting Director Mick Mulvaney played in issuing the fine.

"Mulvaney has brought no new enforcement actions since he has been at the CFPB," he said. "Investigations that take many months or even years, and that are just now being finalized, are due to the aggressive work my team did to bring predatory behavior to light. To suggest this is the work of Mulvaney, who has done nothing but throw sticks in the spokes of a talented, hard-working CFPB team of devoted public servants is preposterous."

Gun Legislation: Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.) used the anniversary of the Columbine school shooting to call for legislation to reduce gun violence.

Sen. Yuko in a statement commended students who on Friday walked out of school to mark the 19th anniversary of the school shooting.

"Our young people have sent us a clear message: we need to act now to protect them. The Senate Democratic Caucus has introduced numerous common-sense proposals to address gun violence and help keep our kids safe. Many of these bills have yet to receive a hearing," he said.

"As a leader in the Ohio Senate, I know we have to do more to stop violence in our schools. Schools should be places where children worry about upcoming math tests, and not about active shooters."

Gun Rally: Three gun rights groups on Saturday will hold a "Patriot Day Rally" at the Statehouse.

The 11 a.m. event hosted by Ohioans for Concealed Carry, Ohio Carry and the Buckeye Firearms Association will feature historical information on the role of private gun ownership in the country's founding and immigrants who will talk about their experiences before and after coming to America, according to a release.

NFIB Endorsement: Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford), a speaker hopeful, has the backing of National Federation of Independent Business/Ohio in his reelection bid, the group announced Friday.

Roger Geiger in a statement said Rep. Householder "understands the issues important to Ohio entrepreneurs as demonstrated by his strong voting record with NFIB."

Sheehy Calls For Further Action On Ag Runoff; OEC Proposes Toxic Chemical Protections

Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) criticized state leaders this week after a recent report showed more work is needed to curb the runoff of phosphorus and other nutrients into Ohio's waterways.

His remarks were centered on the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Nutrient Mass Balance Study. The report found "no clear decrease" in nutrient loading, especially from nonpoint sources like agricultural runoff. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 17, 2018)

Rep. Sheehy in a statement singled out farmers for their role in contributing to runoff that can fuel harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

"This new report shows that despite years of deceptive talking points from powerful industry representatives in Columbus, we know where all this excess phosphorus pollution has been coming from," Rep. Sheehy said.

"It's not complicated: if you are causing nearly 90% of a problem, you should participate in searching for a solution," he continued. "Instead, their lobbyists have prioritized fighting against policy solutions and even shifting the blame to urban centers that suffer the worst of these consequences."

The Ohio Farm Bureau previously said the report shows that agriculture must play a role in improving water quality. But a spokesman said new regulations aren't needed in the group's view.

Chemicals: The Ohio Environmental Council is requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency crack down on toxic chemicals.

The request comes in the form of a petition for rulemaking filed by the council seeking new protections against carcinogen perfluorooctanoic acid and other substances that can be pumped into water and air by manufactures.

"These companies need to stop emitting these chemicals before extensively studying them, and our proposed rules would stop this dangerous practice," said Chris Tavenor, an OEC law fellow.

Copies of the request were also submitted to President Donald Trump, Gov. John Kasich, Ohio EPA Director Craig Butler, Attorney General Mike DeWine and members of Ohio's congressional delegation.

Ohio Lands \$26 Million In Federal Opioid Funding; Senators Applaud Disaster Request Approval...

For the second consecutive year, Ohio is poised to receive a \$26 million funding infusion to buoy efforts to combat the opioid epidemic.

The funding announced this week comes from the 21st Century CURES Act passed in 2016. It's part of \$485 million in grants to be divvied up among states this year. Ohio received a similar amount of dollars under the program last year during the first round of funding. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 20, 2017)



Event Planner

Saturday, April 21

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, April 24

OAHU Annual Day at the Statehouse, Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 East State Street, Columbus

Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Parlor A/B, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Brenner for Ohio)

Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) & Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Matt Huffman for Ohio and/or Friends of John Eklund)

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$3,700; Sponsor: \$1,370 to Committee to Elect Cliff Rosenberger)

Ohio Chemistry Technology Council's 30th Annual Legislative Reception, Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, 50 North Third Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Ohio Aggregates and Industrial Minerals Association 20th Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Advocacy Day, Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Davidson Theatre, Columbus

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) and Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Citizens for Bill Beagle and/or Citizens for Lehner)

Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton) & Sen. Frank Hoagland (R-Adena) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Checks to Oelslager for Ohio Committee and/or Hoagland for Ohio)

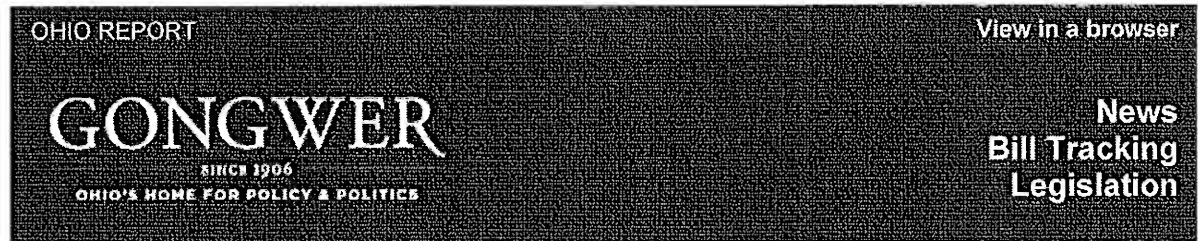
Rep. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Valters at the Mannerchor, 976 S. High St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Host: \$1,000, Sponsor: \$500; Patron: \$250, Individual: \$75 to Committee for Jim Hughes)

Thursday, April 26

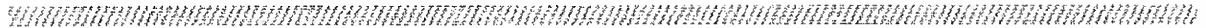
Deadline to file pre-primary campaign finance reports

Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald) fundraiser, Vernon's Italian Ristorante, 720 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, 5 p.m., (Event Sponsor \$1500, Supporter \$1000,

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 6:13 PM
To: Leach, Eric
Subject: Ohio Report, Wednesday, April 25, 2018
Attachments: Apr25.htm; 180425dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25



Senate Leader Points To Variety Of Proposals After Kasich Urges Gun Safety Bill Vote

PUCO Approves Modified AEP Rate Settlement

House GOP To Vote May 15 On Next Speaker

Coal Group, Farm Bureau Urge Panel To Maintain Industry Tax Exemptions

Supreme Court Keeps In Place Rulings On Transfer Agreement, Autopsies

High Court Clarifies Appellate Review Of Arbitration Appeals

Cordray Campaign Pledges To Protect, Expand Veterans Benefits

Obhof OK With Legislative Look At E-School Enrollment Rules; OSU Joins Anti-Poverty Effort; Portman Bill Targets Tech Teacher Training; Auditor Issues Bus Study...

Space Embarks On Tour To Highlight Corruption; Cordray Launches New Ad; Yuko Gets SEIU Backing...

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Volume #87, Report #80 -- Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Senate Leader Points To Variety Of Proposals After Kasich Urges Gun Safety Bill Vote

Gov. John Kasich wants to see a set of gun safety proposals he is supporting come up for a vote, but one legislative leader said his chamber is working through several firearm-related issues.

The governor said Tuesday he hoped to see a vote on a proposal (HB 585 & SB 288) to make several changes to the state's gun laws. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 5, 2018)

Gov. Kasich pointed to the deadly shooting over the weekend at a Tennessee Waffle House restaurant, saying the state needs a "red flag" law to seize guns from people determined to be dangerous. That someone was able to stop the shooter while he reloaded also shows the need for limiting the capacity of magazines, the governor said.

The governor's proposals, particularly the "red flag" language creating extreme risk protection orders, have met pushback from some Republican legislators. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 10, 2018)

Gov. Kasich said he still expects the proposal to become law.

"We're going to get this package through," he said. "This is going to happen. It's not going to be easy to duck and run away and put your head in the sand. I will not let that happen. Maybe they can stop it, but it isn't going to be without a lot of people feeling a lot, a lot of pressure."

The governor said the gun safety proposal would likely pass if brought up for a vote.

"Bring it up and have a vote on it," he said. "We'll see where the votes are. Let's see where the majority of the caucus is. I guarantee you, you put this gun safety on the Senate floor, it passes. We need a vote."

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said Wednesday he doesn't expect that exact proposal to come to the floor of his chamber, but that members are looking at several different items that could eventually pass.

"We have a very open process, we will look at a number of different changes related to firearms, some of which are in line with what the governor is looking at, some of which are longstanding problems that our caucus has felt we had a need to fix," he said.

The Senate leader pointed to legislation ranging from one sponsored by two Republicans to shift the burden of proof in self-defense cases, among other changes (SB 180), to proposals by Democrats to ban bump stocks (SB 219) and to create extreme risk protection orders (SB 278).

"Whether anything passes or whether a lot of it passes, we'll decide as a caucus," Sen. Obhof said.

The risk protection order measure, sponsored by Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman), is one where Sen. Obhof said he's spoken with the sponsor and with the National Rifle Association in an effort to work out differences.

"Everything's on the table," he said.

PUCO Approves Modified AEP Rate Settlement

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's approval Wednesday of AEP Ohio's new rate plan sets the stage for what Chairman Asim Haque believes could be the state's longest period of rate stability in the last decade.

Mr. Haque made that assessment moments after the commission voted 4-0 to modify and approve a wide-ranging rate settlement agreement filed last year by AEP and 19 interested party groups. Commissioner Daniel Conway recused himself.

In addition to establishing rates until May 2024, the Electric Security Plan includes a \$21.1 million "Smart City Rider" to fund electric vehicle charging station development and microgrid investment.

If the commission later this year approves Duke Energy's own proposed settlement rate plan, rates would be stabilized for all four of Ohio's major electric utilities until the mid-2020s, Mr. Haque said.

"This decision represents stability for AEP customers," Mr. Haque said. "ESPs are big cases. They are time intensive and they are very litigious. To have stability in the AEP footprint...is a very good thing for AEP's current customers and for job creation in AEP's service territory."

The commission's order, which may still be appealed by opponents, has been years in the making.

AEP in 2016 filed its initial proposal but critics said that plan could pave the way for a 120% increase - from \$8.40 to \$18.40 a month - for affected customers. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 16, 2016)

The company filed a settlement agreement last year with 19 parties including the Ohio Manufacturers' Association, the Ohio Environmental Council, Industrial Energy Users-Ohio, the Natural Resources Defense Council to address those concerns. AEP has said

the stipulation would lead to a less than 50-cent increase in average monthly bills. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 28, 2017)

Julie Sloat, AEP Ohio president and chief operating officer, said in a statement the plan responds to consumer requests.

"Our customers want reliability and access to advanced technologies, such as EV charging stations, microgrids and renewable energy resources," she said.

"Our plan allows us to bring these services, which also will support economic development in Ohio, to customers across the state. The ESP enables us to continue our investments in the electric grid to provide reliable power and help advance the new technologies and cleaner energy that our customers want."

Dan Sawmiller, the NRDC's Ohio energy policy director, said one surprising modification made by the commission in its order is the removal of a provision that would have enabled AEP to push back that requested 120% increase until 2020.

Other wins from supporters' point of view is a \$10 million rebate program for electrical vehicle charging stations, \$10.5 million for microgrid projects, and regulatory tweaks clearing the way for 900 megawatts of clean energy in Appalachia, Mr. Sawmiller said.

"AEP's now going to be positioned to respond to the expectations of Ohio customers that have been pushing AEP to invest in more clean energy options for years," Mr. Sawmiller said. "On top of that there are some pilot programs in the stipulation and the data and the insight we're going to gain...create the groundwork for a lot of forward-looking progress."

The agreement still has its detractors, including the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, which has argued the deal lacks specifics on customer costs and that the "Smart City Rider" should have been tackled through a separate rate case. The OCC last month petitioned the PUCO to reopen the case to enable further debate. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 2, 2018)

"With the PUCO's approval of AEP's electric security plan today, the trend of charging Ohioans to subsidize outdated and non-competitive power plants continues," OCC spokeswoman Molly McGuire said. "And AEP's plan will also leave consumers paying subsidies for electric vehicle charging, microgrids, large customers (interruptible rates), automakers (bill credits), and possibly renewable energy."

The OCC has continued to press lawmakers to pass a bill (HB 247) banning Electric Security Plans, which it says deprive consumers of the benefits of competitive markets.

But in its order the PUCO determined that the ESP is "more favorable in the aggregate" than a market rate offer, which is the statutory guideline by which the commission evaluates ESPs.

"The ESP proposed in the stipulation affords customers in AEP Ohio's service territory numerous benefits and advances many of the state policy objectives enumerated in (Ohio Revised Code)," the PUCO's order reads.

Commissioner Lawrence Friedeman issued a concurring opinion elaborating on the aforementioned statutory provision - O.R.C. 4928.02 (C) - which establishes state policy as promoting customer choice, encouraging innovation and facilitating the development of the competitive retail electric market through flexible regulatory treatment.

Mr. Friedeman opined that market distortions resulting from cost imbalances might undermine that code section and that those distortions may "erect market barriers which have the tendency not to promote retail competition but rather to have an anti-competitive impact or in an extreme eventuality to re-monopolize the retail market inconsistent with enunciated state policy."

House GOP To Vote May 15 On Next Speaker

House Republicans will vote next month to choose the next speaker, and it is likely that the results of primary elections will influence who gets the gavel.

The majority caucus will vote at noon Tuesday, May 15, to choose its next leader, Speaker Pro Tem Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) said in a memo to members.

The special caucus will only consider votes for a new speaker to fill out the remainder of the year, not any other leadership positions, Rep. Schuring said.

The new speaker will replace Cliff Rosenberger, who resigned earlier this month amid an investigation by the FBI. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 12, 2018)

The speaker's race for the rest of the year could come down to the two candidates who have already been running for the job next year: Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) and Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford). Another possibility is that the caucus will select a placeholder speaker to finish out the year, and Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville), who is term-limited, has expressed interest in that role.

Rep. Smith has said he's confident he can win the speaker's chair when a vote is called. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 13, 2018)

He and Rep. Householder have both been supporting candidates in primary races in an effort to secure a majority in the next General Assembly. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 30, 2018)

If the race comes down to Rep. Smith and Rep. Householder, a likely factor in the race will be the results of the primary election, to be held a week before the speaker vote.

The caucus could also choose a placeholder speaker, likely a term-limited member. Rep. Pelanda said she has discussed the possibility that she run to finish out the rest of

the year. Unlike the other hopefuls, she would be able to do so without the distraction of running in another election.

"I truly believe that it's in the best interest of the members of the Ohio House of Representatives that we have an interim leader to finish out the business of the 132nd General Assembly," she said in an interview.

She said she has not aligned herself with either of the other speaker candidates and said she has had "thoughtful, encouraging" conversations with fellow members about running.

"We've got three weeks until the election and the members will continue to be thoughtful about what is in the best interest going forward for this assembly," she said.

Coal Group, Farm Bureau Urge Panel To Maintain Industry Tax Exemptions

Existing tax breaks supporting the coal and agriculture sectors should be preserved, stakeholder groups told the Tax Expenditure Review Committee Wednesday.

The Ohio Coal Association and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation were among a handful of interested groups arguing in favor of continuing certain tax exemptions as the panel considers whether to preserve or scrap them. (Testimony)

Their arguments are essentially the same - that their respective industries are experiencing trying times and therefore need all the assistance they can get.

OCA President Mike Cope said the coal industry is just now beginning to recover from the "relentless war on coal" waged by the Obama Administration.

"Any tax levied on the purchase of new equipment would be devastating to our recovering industry," Mr. Cope said. "State policy that could increase the cost of coal mining could translate into higher electricity bills for Ohio's consumers."

The tax credit Mr. Cope was referring to exempts tangible personal property used directly in mining. Memos from the Department of Taxation estimate that the break costs the General Revenue Fund \$73.4 million in Fiscal Year 2018 and \$74.3 million in FY 2019. (ODT Analyses)

The Farm Bureau, meanwhile, lobbied for the continuation of credits pertaining to tangible personal property used in agriculture and for the sales and installation of agricultural land tile and portable grain bins.

The former credit lowered GRF revenues by \$331.1 million and \$339.4 million in FY 2018 and 2019, ODT reported. The tile and grain bin concession has a smaller impact at just over \$1 million in each of those years.

"The application of sales tax to input costs of a capital intensive, low profit industry such as agriculture would have significant and severe consequences," said Tony Seegers, the group's director of state policy. "Farm Bureau strongly believes the sales tax exemption must be preserved."

If lawmakers did away with those tax credits, Mr. Seegers said, the higher costs wouldn't immediately be passed onto consumers through costs. Instead, he said farmers themselves would be forced to swallow the change.

"Because prices are dictated by commodity exchanges and global demand, increased costs associated with applying sales tax to inputs will largely be eaten by farmers," he said. "Considering the profit margins we operate on, one can't help to think this would very likely drive some farmers out of business."

The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants submitted written testimony defending an exemption for tangible personal property used in storing, preparing and serving food. ODT estimates a GRF impact of about \$34 million each fiscal year for the biennium due to that exemption.

"This exemption is vital to retailers engaged in providing food products to the general public, as well as to the public served by those retailers who benefit from lower prices as a result," the council argued.

Two other exemptions were on Wednesday's agenda but received no public feedback. They included sales of tangible personal property and services to electricity providers, and TPP used to produce printed materials. In Fiscal Years 2018-2019, those exemptions were expected to cost the GRF \$699.9 million and \$19.7 million respectively, according to ODT.

Wednesday's was the third overall meeting of the committee, which is tasked with reviewing all of Ohio's tax credits over the next eight years. The committee will meet again May 9 to discuss the remaining handful of sales and use tax breaks.

Chairman Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton) said he anticipates the May meeting to be the committee's last this spring. The sales and use exemptions examined during the committee's meetings this year will form the basis of its first report this summer, he said.

"I think we're progressing in a manner that will help us make some decisions down the road and hopefully educate the people of Ohio who are watching," Sen. Oelslager said of the committee's work thus far.

The committee is expected to begin reviewing other exemptions heading into 2019 and has eight years to fully review all \$9 billion-plus a year Ohio's tax credits. The panel has already looked at manufacturing, packaging and a handful of other exemptions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 11, 2018)

In general testimony, Zach Schiller, research director for Policy Matters Ohio, told members the legislature should appropriate funding for staff to undertake a more detailed analysis of the genesis of specific credits and how they have been broadened over time.

He also bemoaned that even as the committee continues its review lawmakers are still proposing and considering new tax exemptions through legislation.

"Adding new special-interest breaks is ill-conceived when this committee has barely started looking at the tax exemptions and credits we have now," Mr. Schiller said. "When the General Assembly thinks about giving away tens of millions for new business tax breaks, it should consider whether we have the money to pay for them, and whether the funds would be better spent educating young Ohioans, cutting our high infant-mortality rate, or fighting the opioid epidemic."

Supreme Court Keeps In Place Rulings On Transfer Agreement, Autopsies

The Ohio Supreme Court on Wednesday denied several motions for reconsideration, including in two high-profile cases involving abortion and public records.

In one case, the court declined to reconsider its February ruling that found the Department of Health was justified in revoking the operating license of a Toledo abortion clinic for lack of a written transfer agreement with a "local" hospital.

In the ruling, the court found that Capital Care Network of Toledo violated state administrative code by inking a written transfer agreement with an Ann Arbor hospital, which the ODH deemed to not be local. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 6, 2018)

Ohio Right to Life President Mike Gonidakis called on the state to revoke the license of Toledo's only abortion clinic.

"Capital Care Network owes an enormous fine of \$40,000 to the state of Ohio, based upon repeated violations of state law," he said. "The original Ohio Department of Health order remains in effect and in order to reopen, this abortion facility must reapply for a license and pay its fine before aborting anymore children."

However, in a statement of its own NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio called on the ODH to immediately reinstate the license for the clinic.

"This morning, a woman in Toledo woke up with the knowledge that she needed an abortion," Executive Director Kellie Copeland said. "There is a clinic in her community that can offer her safe and professional care. That clinic has met all state requirements to provide abortion services. John Kasich and Mike DeWine are standing in between that woman and this clinic, and they are violating her rights as they do so."

Shortly after the court's original decision, the clinic lined up a last-minute transfer agreement with ProMedica.

The court also declined to reconsider its December decision in which it ruled against two newspapers that sought to compel the release of the final, un-redacted autopsy reports of eight individuals murdered in a single night in April 2016 in a Pike County case that is still unsolved.

The divided court in a 4-3 decision found the records requested by the *Cincinnati Enquirer* and the *Columbus Dispatch* fall under the confidential law enforcement investigatory records exemption. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 14, 2017)

The newspapers had argued that under the law final autopsy reports do not qualify for the CLEIR exemption because a coroner is not a law enforcement official.

Justice Terrence O'Donnell and Justice Sharon Kennedy dissented with the ruling on the motion to reconsider.

In a less high-profile case, the court also declined to reconsider its decision not to accept jurisdiction in a case in which a commercial fishing operation alleged that the state's administrative code defining Lake Erie yellow perch management units is unconstitutionally vague. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 14, 2017)

High Court Clarifies Appellate Review Of Arbitration Appeals

When an appellate court reviews a lower court ruling on an arbitration decision it should conduct an independent review of the legal claims made on appeal, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled Wednesday.

In a unanimous decision authored by Justice Terrence O'Donnell, the high court determined appellate courts should accept findings of fact by trial courts that are not clearly made in error while reviewing the legal questions raised on appeal.

"When reviewing a trial court's decision to confirm, modify, vacate, or correct an arbitration award, an appellate court should accept findings of fact that are not clearly erroneous but should review questions of law de novo," Justice O'Donnell ruled.

The case stems from a dispute between the Portage County Board of Developmental Disabilities and one of its employees, the high court reported.

Patricia Bytner was hired to serve as an account clerk for the board with the understanding she would fill the role of a bus driver or bus aide in emergency situations.

After her hiring, Ms. Bytner refused a bus aide assignment, citing a pending knee surgery.

Two months later, the board amended her job description, leading to the union representing her to file a grievance. An arbitrator sided with Ms. Bytner and the union.

The board then successfully asked the Portage County Court of Common Pleas to vacate the ruling.

The union challenged the trial court decision at the Eleventh District Court of Appeals, which reinstated the arbitrator's decision.

However, the decision conflicted with other appellate court rulings, leading the case to the high court.

"In conformity with our resolution of the certified question, we recognize that the court of appeals conducted a proper de novo review of the trial court's decision in this case vacating the arbitration award, reversed its decision, reinstated the arbitration award, and therefore we affirm its judgment," Justice O'Donnell wrote for the court.

In his decision, Justice O'Donnell noted that nine of the state's appellate courts applied a de novo review while three applied an "abuse of discretion" review.

Tenth District Court of Appeals Judge Lisa Sadler sat in on the case for former Justice Bill O'Neill.

Cordray Campaign Pledges To Protect, Expand Veterans Benefits

Lieutenant governor candidate Betty Sutton on Wednesday unveiled her campaign's plan to safeguard health care benefits and create new employment protections for the state's servicemembers and veterans.

Ms. Sutton, the Democratic running mate of Rich Cordray, and former gubernatorial candidate Connie Pillich unveiled the campaign's policies regarding members of the armed forces at a press conference at the Statehouse Veterans Plaza.

The former congresswoman said the state has not done enough to support the men and women who are serving or have served in the military. She said enhancing services for veterans and better connecting them with existing resources would be a "top priority" in Cordray's administration.

"Too often our respect and admiration simply hasn't been matched by tangible action to help our veterans and servicemembers," she said.

The campaign's plan calls for the state to better fund county veterans services commissions to help them assist veterans making medical claims, offer incentives for employees who hire veterans with mild traumatic brain injuries, and protect the state's expansion of Medicaid for veterans who do not qualify for VA benefits.

Ms. Pillich, the head of the campaign's veterans policy team, said the "No. 1 concern" among veterans she has talked to throughout the state is health care. She said the Cordray campaign's plan would safeguard and expand important resources for servicemembers.

"Ohio veterans need much more than a specialty license plate," she said.

The former Ohio House member and U.S. Air Force veteran said the campaign also is proposing to include a box for veterans to check on state tax returns to allow the governor's office to identify them and connect them with available resources.

The plan also suggests the state protect the jobs of Army National Guard members who have been activated and allow spouses who lose their jobs because of a servicemember's transfer to collect unemployment benefits.

Ms. Sutton said she and her running mate also would make it a priority to take combat "predatory lenders" who target veterans.

"I can think of no leader with stronger credentials to do that than Rich Cordray," she said, citing her running mate's tenure as head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Ms. Sutton, who previously served on the U.S. House Armed Services Committee, also pointed to Mr. Cordray's work on a successful 2009 ballot issue to authorize bonuses for veterans of conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Persian Gulf as evidence of his support for servicemembers.

"We owe veterans an enormous debt of gratitude, but our gratitude must be matched by tangible action by state government to improve the lives of veterans, servicemembers and military families," Mr. Cordray said in a statement. "Betty and I will fight every day in office to honor those who have served and provide them with the support they need to thrive in Ohio."

Obhof OK With Legislative Look At E-School Enrollment Rules; OSU Joins Anti-Poverty Effort; Portman Bill Targets Tech Teacher Training; Auditor Issues Bus Study...

Senate President Larry Obhof on Wednesday said setting standards for verifying e-school enrollment falls within the legislature's purview after a whistleblower's claims thrust a shuttered charter school back into the spotlight.

The chamber leader said after a nonvoting session that the body "should take a look" at how the state measures enrollment and funds such schools rather than fully deferring to ODE.

"When the legislature's able to do things or has the responsibility for doing things, it should be the legislature, not an administrative agency, that does that," he said.

The Associated Press first reported an employee of the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow told Department of Education officials last year that the school demanded workers manipulate attendance figures after the state moved to recoup \$60 million in

payments. Within hours, the former employee's claim became an issue among candidates for attorney general and auditor. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 24, 2018)

Despite backing an examination of the issue by the legislature, Sen. Obhof (R-Medina) said he does not support "micromanaging all of the fine-tuned details" of the state's enrollment-verification process.

A bill (HB 611) sponsored by Rep. Keith Faber (R-Celina) and Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) that would tie state payments to e-schools to the use of verifiable software that tracks attendance, class size and participation was introduced last week in the House.

Alliance for the American Dream: Ohio State University has received a \$1.5 grant after a philanthropic organization selected the school to participate in an effort aimed at bolstering the middle class.

Schmidt Futures, a group founded by former Alphabet Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt, announced this week it added OSU to its Alliance for the American Dream. The effort seeks to increase economic opportunities for working Americans and reduce poverty.

"We are delighted to announce that Ohio State will act as an inaugural partner in the Alliance for the American Dream," Mr. Schmidt said in a statement. "When I was in Columbus last December, I saw firsthand the energy and vibrancy of the campus and region. Columbus is a perfect place to find great, fresh ideas. We are delighted to support them as they fuel an innovation engine to help distressed communities and expand the middle class."

As part of the collaborative project, OSU will receive \$1.5 million in funding to engage business, community and government leaders in "in a robust brainstorming process," according to a news release from the school.

"As a modern land-grant university, Ohio State is committed to expanding opportunity, unlocking talent and increasing economic vitality," OSU President Michael V. Drake said in a statement. "We are absolutely thrilled to join the Alliance and to partner with individuals and communities on this important and timely endeavor. It's 'The Columbus Way' in action."

Teacher training bill: U.S. Senator Rob Portman announced the introduction of a bill aimed at establishing a grant program to support training for career and technical education teachers

"Quality CTE teachers play a key role in expanding access to high quality programs and making sure more students and parents recognize the value of a CTE education - all of which helps lead to more and better job opportunities for students," Sen. Portman said in a statement. "I'm proud to introduce this bipartisan bill to ensure that we have better prepared teachers for this generation and generations to come."

The Creating Quality Technical Educators Act would provide funding for one-year residencies at schools for potential career and technical educators.

Sen. Portman (R-Terrace Park) is co-chairman of the Career and Technical Education Caucus with Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA). The co-chairs introduced the legislation alongside Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV).

The Alliance for Excellent Education, the American Federation of Teachers and the Association for Career and Technical Education have expressed support for the measure.

Feasibility study: Belmont County school districts could save money by combining their efforts to maintain school buses, according to a study called the "first of its kind" by the state auditor's office.

The Bellaire Local School District, the Bridgeport Exempted Village School District, the Shadyside Local School District and the St. Clairsville-Richland City School District requested the state perform the study after seeing the number of bus riders decrease in recent years.

The study found the districts could operate more efficiently and save money by combining some maintenance efforts. Legislation (HB5) that took effect in 2016 gave the auditor's office the power to study the feasibility of potential efforts to share services among local governments.

"Ohio has thousands of local government entities, which has the advantage of keeping government close to the people, but the drawback is duplication of effort," State Auditor Dave Yost said in a statement. "Sharing services can keep government close to the people while reducing redundant administration, facilities and equipment. This saves money and improves efficiency for taxpayers. It also is a way to continue providing an adequate level of service even if costs rise or budgets shrink."

Space Embarks On Tour To Highlight Corruption; Cordray Launches New Ad; Yuko Gets SEIU Backing...

Zack Space announced that he is embarking on a two-day, five-city tour detailing the "corrupt culture on Capitol Square."

The state auditor hopeful in a statement cited the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow scandal and the resignation of former Speaker Cliff Rosenberger as examples of the "the pervasive culture of corruption."

"We must take state government back from the self-interested incumbents and campaign contributors who put their special interests above the needs of ordinary Ohioans," he said in a statement. "That's why I am calling for a wide-ranging criminal investigation into ECOT and for the politicians who aided and abetted this scam to

donate every cent of campaign contributions received from ECOT founder Bill Lager and his associates to charities supporting Ohio public schools."

The tour included Wednesday stops in Youngstown and Steubenville and will head to events in Dayton, Toledo and Lima on Thursday.

New Ad: Democrat Richard Cordray is up with his second television ad in his gubernatorial campaign.

In "Save," the former director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau touts his record of protecting consumers.

"As treasurer, Cordray safeguarded your tax dollars. As attorney general he recovered \$2 billion that Wall Street stole," the narrator says in the 30-second spot. "That's why President Obama chose him to be our nation's top consumer watchdog."

SEIU Backing: Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko, who faces a primary challenge from Rep. John Barnes (D-Cleveland), announced on Wednesday the Service Employees International Union District 1199 WV/KY/OH is backing his candidacy.

In announcing the endorsement Anthony Caldwell, director of public affairs, in a statement cited the Richmond Heights Democrat's three-decade career as a union organizer.

"Yuko's career as a 30-year union organizer reinforces and guides his principles to support the people of his district and determination to help those who are most vulnerable. He wants families in the 25th Senate District and across Ohio to earn fair wages, a quality public education, and access to healthcare coverage," he said.

Union Endorsement: Franklin County Recorder Danny O'Connor picked up another endorsement in his bid for the Democratic nomination in the 12th Congressional District.

The Communications Workers of America Local 4502 announced Wednesday that it is backing his candidacy. President David McCune in a statement said Mr. O'Connor will fight to protect working families.

"Danny has a passion for issues that affect hard working men and women such as creating economic opportunity and jobs for Ohio, improving our education system, and safeguarding our voting rights and the commitment to work for families," he said.

Farm Bill: The Ohio Farmers Union announced Wednesday its opposition to the U.S. House's version of the farm bill.

President Joe Logan said the proposal "turned a blind eye toward the urgent needs of farmers for a strong safety net" and "to the nutrition needs of America's least fortunate in both rural and urban communities."

"The Congress and administration have clearly demonstrated a willingness to explode the federal budget deficit by giving a \$1.5 trillion tax cut to wealthy corporations and individuals," he added. "When rural America asks for a far more modest budget request, they can't manage to find a way to lend a hand."

BWC Rebate: In the wake of the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's announcement that it is issuing an employer premium rebate to the tune of \$1.5 billion, the Ohio Association of Justice is questioning a challenge to an appellate court ruling that found some "scheduled loss awards" should be paid in lump sums.

BWC was paying those awards to workers who suffer amputations or loss of use due to industrial injuries on a biweekly basis.

"It is time to ask, when did the Ohio workers' compensation system stop being about injured workers?" John Van Doorn, government affairs director, said in a release. "We are all in favor of job creation in this state, but let's share some of the BWC's financial surplus with the injured workers who the system was constitutionally created to protect."

Advocate Seeks KY Seat: Longtime Ohio Statehouse fixture Col Owens is looking to enter the other side of the legislative political realm - just in another state.

Mr. Owens, who served for 30 years as senior attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio and was involved in Advocates for Ohio's Future and other groups backing health and human services funding, is running as a Democrat in Kentucky's 69th House District.

The lifelong Kentucky resident's candidacy is the subject of a fundraiser next month at the home of former Ohio Rep. Ted Celeste and wife Bobbie, 1230 Oakland Ave. in Grandview Heights.

Those interested in attending or seeking more information on the event, set for 5:30-7 p.m. May 10, should RSVP to Cathy Levine at cathyjlevine@gmail.com or 614-313-7478.

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The system allows subscribers to request text notifications regarding the publication of the Gongwer *Ohio Report*, breaking news updates, media clips and legislative floor



Daily Activity Planner for Thursday, April 26

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

BWC Board of Directors, 30 W. Spring St., Room 3 on Level 2, Columbus, 8 a.m.
Facilities Construction Commission, Rm. 121, Statehouse, Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Deadline to file pre-primary campaign finance reports

Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald) fundraiser, Vernon's Italian Ristorante, 720 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, 5 p.m., (Event Sponsor \$1500, Supporter \$1000, Friend \$500, Table Sponsor \$300, Individual \$60 to Committee to Elect Glenn Holmes)

Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) fundraiser, Berry's Restaurant, 15 W. Main Street, Norwalk, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$250 to Nathan Manning for Ohio)

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) fundraiser, Aloft Columbus Westerville, 32 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$250 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus) fundraiser, The Lincoln Caf^e, 740 E. Long St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$250, \$100, \$50, \$25 to Friends of Hearcel F. Craig)

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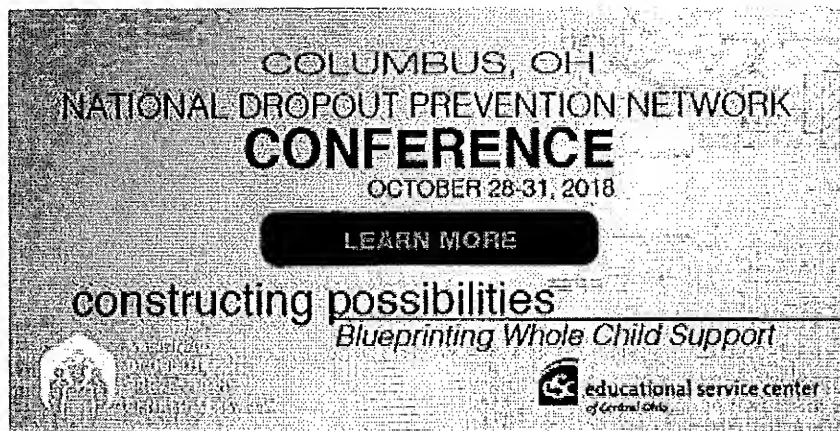
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From: Joseph Weitz

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:02 AM

Subject: Weekly Wrap 4/27/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio - Ohio
Gubernatorial Candidates & Education; Federal Civil Rights Data Collection

Connect with us!



Week of April 27, 2018

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

JUMP TO A SECTION

FEATURED ITEMS

OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education

School Finance & Budget

Education & Public Policy

Schools

School Facilities Commission

Postsecondary & Workforce Development

Reports

NATIONAL/WORLD

Federal/U.S. Department of Education

Education Policy & Finance

Educator Effectiveness

Digital Convergence
Charter Schools
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Dropout Prevention & Re-Engaging Youth
Special Education
School Safety & Discipline
Mental Health & Wellness
Early Learning
Career- & Postsecondary-Readiness
STEM/STEAM
Data

OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE

House Bills
Senate Bills

FEATURED ITEMS

OHIO GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES SHARE EDUCATION

PLANS – *With the May 8th primary quickly approaching, the Columbus Dispatch recently covered and summarized the Ohio gubernatorial candidates' policy positions on education.*

Two GOP Candidates for Governor Take on Education Issues – Columbus Dispatch

- Attorney General Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor agree that Ohio schools must be held accountable for preparing children to succeed in a rapidly changing economy, and the state must provide the necessary resources for a quality education

Democratic Candidates for Governor Have Big Plans for Education – Columbus Dispatch

- Four Democrats are seeking their party's nomination for governor, and all have ambitious plans for improving Ohio's education system and preparing students for jobs of the future

FEDS RELEASE CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTION – *The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights released its annual data collection (CDRC) about key education and civil rights issues from virtually every public school in the country. The CRDC collects a variety of information including student enrollment and educational programs and services, most of which is disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency, and disability.*

Civil Rights Data Collection (CDRC) for the 2015-16 School Year – USDOE

- The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) collected data about key education and civil rights issues for the 2015-16 school year from virtually every public school in the country through the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC). The CRDC collects a variety of information including student enrollment and educational programs and services, most of which is disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency, and disability

Discipline Disparities Grow for Students of Color, New Federal Data Show – EdWeek

- At a time when the Trump administration is contemplating rolling back discipline guidance with protections for vulnerable groups, new federal data find continuing disparities in how students of color and those with disabilities are disciplined and in the opportunities they get in schools

Students of Color Face Persistent Disparities in Access to Advanced STEM Courses – EdWeek

- The proportion of students of color who take high-level math and science courses continues to trail that of their white peers—jeopardizing those students' ability to master the knowledge they need to secure a college-preparatory diploma

How Many Students Are Chronically Absent in Your State? Federal Data Show Rates Rising – EdWeek

- New federal civil rights data show nearly 8 million students nationwide were reported chronically absent from school in 2015-16, representing 16 percent of all K-12 students. That's up by a million or more students from the last national count in 2013-14, when 14 percent of students were reported as missing 15 or more days in the school year

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OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

2 Chardon Shooting Survivors among Central Ohio Students in National Walkout – Columbus Dispatch

- The two shooting victims chatted after the National School Walkout rally at OSU ended, one of events at more than 2,000 schools across the country to remember Columbine. Even with 13 people killed, the Colorado mass shooting ranks as only the fifth-deadliest U.S. school shooting on record

BEXLEY CITY SCHOOLS

Bexley Schools' Strategic Plan: Survey Says No Single Issue Stands Out – This Week

- As the Bexley City School District begins a new strategic-plan process that will guide the district for the next three years, the results of a community survey indicate several residents are satisfied overall with the current state of the system, according to the local firm that conducted the survey

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Online Testing Woes Discussed – Sunbury News

- The Big Walnut Board of Education discussed the problems with state testing after there were problems that shut down online testing the morning of April 18

CHILLICOTHE CITY SCHOOLS

School Board to Vote on Elementaries' Last Day Change – Chillicothe Gazette

- The Chillicothe City Schools Board of Education Monday will take care of several items in wrapping up the current school year, including a vote on a change to the end of the 2017-18 school year calendar

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

Ecole Kenwood School Gets Prestigious French Honor – This Week

- The Columbus City Schools French immersion program at 3770 Shattuck Ave. in northwest Columbus was recently presented with the Label FrancEducation international accreditation

DELAWARE CITY SCHOOLS

Delaware BOE Approves Contracts, Easement – Delaware Gazette

- The Delaware City Schools Board of Education approved employment changes, administrative contracts, and a .284-acre easement to the city at its regular board meeting Monday

GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Issue Is Top Item for Voters – This Week

- Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District residents will face a combined issue on the May 8 ballot with a 1.22-mill, 30-year bond issue and a 4.28-mill continuous operating levy for a total of 5.5 mill

GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS

Green Dot Gives Students Options to Beat Bullying – This Week

- Grandview Heights High School is taking a new approach in its effort to prevent bullying, date violence and sexual assault

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS

Kenneth Kraemer Will Succeed Dwight Carter as New Albany High School Principal – This Week

- The New Albany-Plain Local school board on April 23 unanimously approved a two-year contract for Kenneth Kraemer as principal from Aug. 1 through July 31, 2020

Underage Alcohol Use Should Not Be Overlooked – This Week Eagle Eye on Education

- Michael Sawyers, superintendent of New Albany-Plain Local Schools, writes that a comprehensive Well-being Initiative is being implemented to provide pre-K through 12th-grade programs and resources for their students and families

OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS

Signing Ceremonies Enhance Olentangy District's Reputation as Military-Friendly – Columbus Dispatch

- Tuesday afternoon was Orange High School's first military-signing ceremony, similar to the signing ceremonies that high schools hold for student-athletes to sign letters of intent for their chosen colleges

REYNOLDSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

District Has Potential to Be Trendsetter – This Week Raider Talk

- Melvin Brown, superintendent of Reynoldsburg City Schools, writes that his goal is to seek recognition based on an infrastructure that supports optimal learning, experiential opportunities, leadership development and positive community and civic engagement

Davis Hired as District HR Director – This Week

- Reynoldsburg City Schools has hired a new human resources director who has a "plethora of experience" in education and staffing, according to Superintendent Melvin Brown

UPPER ARLINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

UA Teachers Reach Deal with District in Three Days – This Week

- Upper Arlington Schools won't have to worry about labor negotiations in the immediate future after recently striking a three-year agreement with its teachers union

From: Cicchillo, Joseph
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 1:53 PM
To: Leach, Eric
Subject: Update 5/1

Phone Calls:

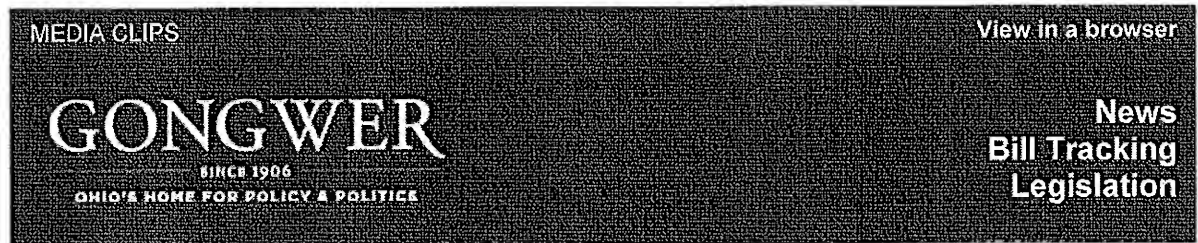
- Jodi Elsass-Locker (Deputy Legal Counsel?)
 - Called at 8:00 AM today and left a voicemail to call back
 - 614-466-1920
- Jeff Dylan: Americans for Prosperity Lobbyist
 - 614-460-0488
 - Wanted to set up a meeting for HB 571(added to tracker)
- Johann Klein: Called while you were in your meeting
 - Emailed you some information, if you have any questions you can call him @ the # below
 - Cell: 614-507-0878
 - Has a meeting at 2:00 but should be free otherwise

Thanks,

Joseph Cicchillo

Legislative Fellow for State Representative Bill Reineke
Ohio House of Representatives, District 88
77 S High Street, 14th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-1374

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 8:31 AM
To: Leach, Eric
Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, May 2



NEWS

Officials find flaw with medical marijuana grower scoring (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Ohio governor to announce chronic pain prescriber standards (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Ohio's top court to hear arguments on promotions tax dispute (Associated Press, 5/2/2018)

Here are all 403 personalized license plates Ohio rejected in the past year (Cincinnati Enquirer, 5/2/2018)

Who's who in the 'toss-up' race for Congress (Cincinnati Enquirer, 5/2/2018)

As Richard Cordray campaigns for Ohio governor, the federal agency he headed is in trial in Cleveland (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Conservative Buckeye Institute says bail reform in Ohio would save money (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Dennis Kucinich says the bulk of his consulting fees came from anti-G.M.O. group (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Kane launches second ad of GOP primary for Tiberi's old seat (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Kucinich: I got \$122,000 as consultant for sustainable food group (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Mike DeWine stresses conservative credentials in new TV ad (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Ohio asks feds for OK to impose Medicaid work requirements (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Trump accuser getting donations from across US for Ohio race (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Trump accuser getting donations from across US for Ohio race (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

Ohio may ban free international travel for lawmakers (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Report: Bail reforms could save Ohio taxpayers \$67 million a year (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Sexual assault legal loophole prevents victim military transfers, lawmaker says (Dayton Daily News, 5/2/2018)

Algal blooms harder to control because of climate change, other factors, data shows (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

Commissioners, state representative advocate for regulation of payday loans (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

Groups explore extent of ECOT 'hush money' (Toledo Blade, 5/2/2018)

EDITORIALS

Beacon Journal/Ohio.com editorial board: Being mean to the poor in public housing (Akron Beacon Journal, 5/2/2018)

Dimitri McDaniel in the Democratic primary for Ohio House 12: endorsement editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Rick Raley in the Democratic primary for Ohio House 14: endorsement editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/2/2018)

Editorial: Clarify regulations to finally banish ECOT demons (Columbus Dispatch, 5/2/2018)

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From: Westlake, Libby
Sent: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 5/2/2018

HOUSE E-CLIPS

5/2/2018



OHIO'S TOP COURT TO HEAR ARGUMENTS ON PROMOTIONS TAX DISPUTE

The Ohio Supreme Court has set a date for arguments in a dispute over promotions offered by the Cincinnati Reds to ticket buyers including bobbleheads and other items.

OHIO GOVERNOR TO ANNOUNCE CHRONIC PAIN PRESCRIBER STANDARDS

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is preparing to announce new standards to help people suffering from chronic pain get proper treatment from prescribers to avoid addiction.



KUCINICH SAYS HE GOT \$120K AS CONSULTANT FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD GROUP

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dennis Kucinich received \$122,000 in consulting fees in 2016 from a group that works for food sustainability and safety, his campaign said Tuesday.

TRUMP ACCUSER GETTING DONATIONS FROM ACROSS US FOR OHIO RACE

The national exposure that has come with her accusations of sexual harassment against President Donald Trump has translated into an unprecedented number of individual campaign contributors for Rachel Crooks' Ohio House campaign.

MIKE DEWINE STRESSES CONSERVATIVE CREDENTIALS IN NEW TV AD

With a week until Election Day, the Republican gubernatorial campaign of Mike DeWine is airing a new TV commercial that it hopes underlines his conservative credentials — and support of President Donald Trump.

SPENDING FOR TV ADS COULD BE TROUBLE FOR ECOT IN UPCOMING AUDIT

The first report regarding ECOT's operations following allegations from an insider that the school used new tracking software to manipulate attendance data will come from the state auditor.

REPORT: BAIL REFORMS COULD SAVE OHIO TAXPAYERS \$67 MILLION A YEAR

A new report from the Buckeye Institute says Ohio could save \$67 million a year in jail costs by changing the bail system used by courts.

OHIO MAY BAN FREE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR LAWMAKERS

In the wake of Republican Cliff Rosenberger's abrupt resignation as Ohio House speaker, state Rep. Niraj Antani is proposing reforms to state ethics laws when it comes to gifts, meals and travel for legislators.

MAY ELECTION: BIG MONEY SPENT IN MIAMI/DARKE COUNTY STATE HOUSE RACE

Nearly a quarter of a million dollars has been spent on the Republican primary in Ohio's 80th state House district making it one of the most expensive statehouse primary in the region.

THE PLAIN DEALER

AS RICHARD CORDRAY CAMPAIGNS FOR OHIO GOVERNOR, THE FEDERAL AGENCY HE HEADED IS IN TRIAL IN CLEVELAND

A trial that began in U.S. District Court in Cleveland on Tuesday pits the federal agency Ohio Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray once led against a law firm the agency accuses of conducting deceptive debt collection practices.

DENNIS KUCINICH SAYS THE BULK OF HIS CONSULTING FEES CAME FROM ANTI-G.M.O. GROUP

Former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich's gubernatorial campaign released more details Tuesday about the roughly \$120,000 he received from consulting.

RICK RALEY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 14:

ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

State Rep. Martin J. Sweeney is moving on from his 14th Ohio House District to run for the Ohio Senate, leaving the House seat wide open for four Democrats eager to succeed him -- including his 25-year-old daughter, Bride Rose Sweeney.

DIMITRI MCDANIEL IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 12:

ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

Several strong Democratic primary candidates are seeking to replace term-limited state Rep. John Barnes Jr. in the 12th Ohio House District, which reaches from a slice of southeast Cleveland to Bedford, Bedford Heights, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, North Randall, Orange, Pepper Pike and Warrensville Heights.

THE BLADE

One of America's Great Newspapers

ASHFORD, FEDOR SQUARE OFF IN PRIMARY FOR OHIO SENATE SEAT

Imagine that: A hotly contested race without mudslinging.

From: Joseph Weitz

Sent: Friday, May 4, 2018 1:31 PM

Subject: Weekly Wrap 5/4/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio

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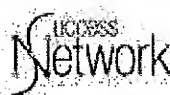


PBL Ohio Institute

July 25-27, 2018

Pre-Conference Project Slice

July 24, 2018



Week of May 4, 2018

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

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Transportation

OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE

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OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

Homes Selling for Far More than Auditor Figured – Columbus Dispatch

- Four out of five Franklin County homes that changed hands this year sold above the county auditor's estimated value, in some cases for two or three times as much. The difference reflects, in part, the sharp climb in home values since the county reappraised property last year

Five Area Superintendents Come Together – Marysville Journal Tribune

- Superintendents from the area's five school districts came together to discuss their schools' goals at a Union County Chamber of Commerce Business Impact meeting Thursday morning

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

Columbus School Board Interviews Mediators – Columbus Dispatch

- The Columbus Board of Education might need a mediator to help in the hiring of a mediator after Monday night's special meeting to jump-start a renewed superintendent search ended with one member suggesting that the board leadership had called two meetings to pad members' pay

Columbus Schools' Financial Picture Improved; Board Hires Mediator – Columbus Dispatch

- Though the state legislature dealt the district a bad hand in last year's budget, Columbus City Schools' five-year financial forecast has improved, thanks to \$18.4 million in budget cuts and voters approving a levy last November, the school board learned Tuesday

Incoming Columbus Teachers= 2 Union President Questions Whether District Bargained in Good Faith – Columbus Dispatch

- The incoming leader of the Columbus teachers union is questioning whether the city school district bargained in good faith last fall when it said it couldn't afford higher pay raises after it announced this week that its financial picture is much brighter than originally thought

DUBLIN CITY SCHOOLS

Barr Returning to Dublin as Scottish Corners Principal – This Week

- For Lauren Barr, returning to the Dublin City School District feels like coming home. Barr, a Hilliard resident, will leave her role as assistant principal at Barrington Elementary School in Upper Arlington to become principal at Scottish Corners Elementary School in Dublin

GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Program Teaches Students to Stand Up Against Bullying and Other Violence – Columbus Dispatch

- Gahanna Lincoln, where an initial group of about 25 students was trained in March, was the first high school in Ohio to adopt the Green Dot program, said Sue Wismar, a prevention coordinator at the OhioHealth Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio. Grandview Heights High School also is participating, with its first round of students trained earlier this month

Implications of Insight2050 Report to Be Reviewed – This Week

- Jefferson Township will hold an informational meeting about the Mid-Ohio Planning Commission's Insight2050 plan and its future impact on Jefferson Township, Gahanna and the Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools

GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS

Program Teaches Students to Stand Up Against Bullying and Other Violence – Columbus Dispatch

- Gahanna Lincoln, where an initial group of about 25 students was trained in March, was the first high school in Ohio to adopt the Green Dot program, said Sue Wismar, a prevention coordinator at the OhioHealth Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio. Grandview Heights High School also is participating, with its first round of students trained earlier this month

Brown Brings Educational Passion to High School – This Week

- Preceded by raves, Robert Brown's arrival at Grandview Heights High School has been welcomed by district officials and the new principal himself

School Year Winding Down, But Halls Still Bustling – This Week District Notebook

- Andy, superintendent of Grandview Heights City Schools, writes that although there may be only a few weeks left on the calendar, all of their district students remain busy both in and out of the classroom

GROVEPORT MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Eight Make First Cut in Superintendent Search – This Week

- Groveport Madison's interim superintendent and the district's director of curriculum, instruction and professional development are among eight superintendent candidates who will be interviewed by the school board May 9 and 10

Twenty-Nine Apply for Groveport Madison Superintendent Job – Columbus Messenger

- At their May 2 meeting, the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education received an update from K12 Business Consulting Inc., regarding the search for the district's next superintendent

Groveport Madison School Board Pares Superintendent Candidates to Eight – Columbus Dispatch

- The Groveport Madison Board of Education plans to interview eight people next week to be the district's next superintendent, including the interim superintendent and a former school administrator who was in the running recently to lead the Columbus City Schools

Groveport Madison Finances Are Good, But Levy Looms on the Horizon – Columbus Messenger

- Groveport Madison Schools' finances are currently in good shape, but the district's existing levy will need to be renewed by voters in 2019 to maintain future fiscal stability, according to the district's most recent five year forecast

HILLIARD CITY SCHOOLS

Fair Will Showcase McVey Innovative Learning Center Programs to Community – This Week

- A new Hilliard City Schools event will provide community members an opportunity to discover the various programs available to students at the McVey Innovative Learning Center, 5323 Cemetery Road

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOLS

Board of Developmental Disabilities Program Gives heights Students Work Experience – Newark Advocate

- Working in partnership with The Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities (LCBDD), Heights has placed students at two Pataskala job sites for unpaid, work-based learning internships

MARYSVILLE SCHOOLS

School Levy Officially on Nov. 6 Ballot – Marysville Journal Tribune

- The Marysville Board of Education voted unanimously Thursday night to place a permanent renewal levy on the Nov. 6 ballot

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS

Kraemer Seeks Strong Culture as New Albany High School Principal – This Week

- For Kenneth Kraemer, joining the New Albany-Plain Local School District was an opportunity to continue building his career in education

NORTHRIDGE LOCAL SCHOOLS

Northridge Hopeful Fourth Levy Attempt Will Pass – Newark Advocate

- Over the last few months Northridge Board of Education President Doug Hart has seen people's opinion change about the district's upcoming levy. Now the district must wait and see if enough people will support it May 8

OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS

New Forecast Reveals Need for Funding – This Week

- By 2022, the Olentangy Local School District is expected to be educating more than 22,000 students and likely will need more money to do so

SOUTH-WESTERN CITY SCHOOLS

SWCS Officials Build Game Plan for Bolton Crossing Addition, Other Projects – This Week

- Construction of an addition to the Bolton Crossing Elementary School building is beginning, but another construction project may be on the horizon for the site at 2695 Holt Road

UPPER ARLINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

Program Pairs Elementary Students in Art Classes with Alzheimer's Adults – Columbus Dispatch

- The scene Friday afternoon in Room 117 of Upper Arlington's Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School was the furthest thing from sadness or dread. About 20 fourth-graders worked on art projects with four local residents who have early-stage Alzheimer's disease, and it was all grins and giggles and happy industry

UA School Board OKs \$2.15M Contract for Tremont Fields – This Week

- A project to build a multipurpose turf field and two ball diamonds behind Tremont Elementary School is moving forward after the approval of a \$2.15 million contract for the work

Barr Returning to Dublin as Scottish Corners Principal – This Week

- For Lauren Barr, returning to the Dublin City School District feels like coming home. Barr, a Hilliard resident, will leave her role as assistant principal at Barrington Elementary School in Upper Arlington to become principal at Scottish Corners Elementary School in Dublin

WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

Five in Running for District Treasurer – This Week

- The Westerville City School District has five candidates under consideration for the treasurer's post

WORTHINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

Brown Brings Educational Passion to High School – This Week

- Preceded by raves, Robert Brown's arrival at Grandview Heights High School has been welcomed by district officials and the new principal himself

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Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education

ODE Committee Approves 10 New STEM Schools, Considers Changes to Designation Process – Hannah

- The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) STEM Committee Friday approved the addition of 10 new STEM schools, bringing the state's total to 54 STEM-designated schools

ODE Announces Newly Designated STEM and STEAM Schools – ODE

- Ohio's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Committee recently approved 11 new STEM and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) schools for next school year that will focus on inquiry and a design-thinking approach to science, technology, engineering, mathematics, the arts and humanities

School Report Card Workgroup Considers Short-, Long-Term Recommendations – Hannah

- There are steps that the State Board of Education can take in the near future to address some of the issues school districts and other stakeholders have with the current school report card system, but more systemic changes will take more time, and often require legislative action

Teacher Roster Verification Concludes May 8; No Extensions for May 24

Principal Approval Deadline – ODE

- Teachers with value-added data at districts participating in roster verification have until May 8 to verify their class rosters. Principals may approve rosters as teachers complete them

Summer Food Service Program Sponsors and Sites Still Needed – ODE

- The Department is looking for local nonprofit agencies to serve as sponsors or sites to serve free meals to children. Summer food service sponsors and sites are especially needed in southern Ohio counties where families struggle with food insecurity, as well as in rural communities and areas where migrant families live

Opioids and Ohio Children: Tools for School Nurses – ODE

- The Ohio Department of Health will host a conference on July 25 to give school nurses information and resources to support students with prenatal opioid exposure and trauma caused by family opioid abuse

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Ohio Education & Public Policy

Hot-Button Issues Dominate GOP Race for Ohio Governor – Columbus Dispatch

- Mary Taylor is an absolutist. Mike DeWine is close. That's the main difference between the two Republican candidates for governor on hot-button issues

Gun Restrictions Pose Hottest Issue for Democratic Candidates for Ohio Governor – Columbus Dispatch

- Ohio's four major Democratic gubernatorial candidates generally agree on LGBT rights but disagree on abortion rights

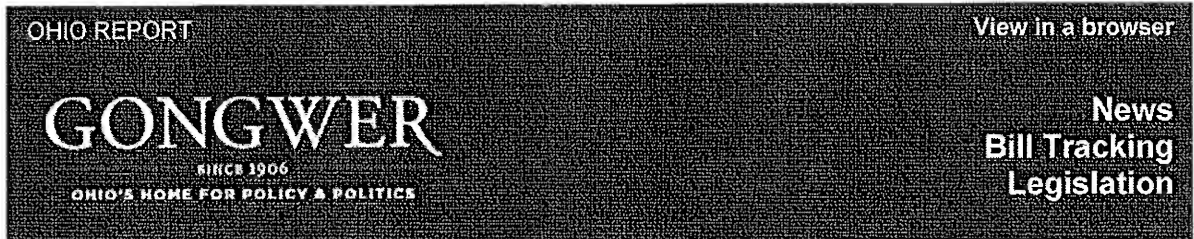
Americans Want More Mental Health Services for Children, Survey Shows – Columbus Dispatch

- A survey released by Nationwide Children's Hospital on Tuesday shows that 87 percent of Americans believe their communities need more mental-health services for children, including prevention and treatment

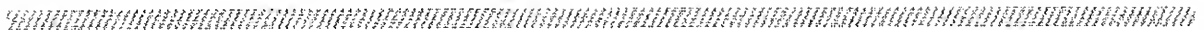
Democrats Push Against 'School Takeover' Commissions, Cite Lack of Results – Hannah

- House Democrats, citing controversy and a lack of results, are pushing legislation that would block the state from creating additional academic

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 6:40 PM
To: Leach, Eric
Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, May 10, 2018
Attachments: May10.htm; 180510dayplan.htm; May11Schedule.htm



OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, MAY 10



State Auditor: ECOT Officials May Have Engaged In Criminal Activity

**Democrats Seek To Anchor Republican Candidates To Online School
Faulted In Audit**

Medicaid Officials Detail Safeguards For Managed Care Expansion

**Administration Points To Improvements In Behavioral Health Redesign
Payments**

Retirement Study Council Approves 2019 Budget

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Council Gets Nearly \$1 Million NEA Grant; Auditor; ODA; DAS**

Governor's Appointments

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Volume #87, Report #91 -- Thursday, May 10, 2018

State Auditor: ECOT Officials May Have Engaged In Criminal Activity

State Auditor Dave Yost on Thursday referred his office's audit of the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow for potential prosecution before blasting the Department of Education's oversight of the now-shuttered e-school and calling for stricter state laws on such entities.

The auditor's report determined that ECOT failed to provide documents proving students were using their computers for educational purposes for the hours it requested payment for during the 2016-17 school year. The audit found that although the school used tracking software known as ActivTrak to record what websites and programs students were using and how long they were using them, it did not provide all of that data to ODE.

Mr. Yost also issued findings for recovery on nearly \$250,000 that ECOT-related entities spent on political advertising as the General Assembly was considering new measures to regulate charters and ODE was looking to claw back payments made to the online school.

The audit's release kicked off another round of criticism from Democrats who accused Republican leaders of failing to oversee ECOT and prompted several Republican statewide candidates to donate money their campaigns had previously received from school leaders (*See separate story*).

Mr. Yost called information garnered from ActivTrak "the smoking gun" in his office's investigation into ECOT, which ended with him referring the findings to the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office and U.S. Attorney's Office.

"For the first time, we can prove that ECOT submitted information to ODE in order to get paid that it knew to be false when it was submitted," Mr. Yost said.

After ODE requested information on student participation at the e-school, Mr. Yost said ECOT provided "meaningless and unreliable information ...that ODE inexplicably accepted." He said department officials should have pushed for more information from the school.

"I would not have accepted the watered-down, blanked-out spreadsheets that were submitted to ODE," he said.

In a statement, Mr. Yost went further to challenge the department's handling of the e-school.

"With the level of incompetence displayed by both the school and ODE, the regulator, it's amazing that any money went to education whatsoever," he said.

ODE spokeswoman Brittany Halpin in a statement pushed back against the auditor's claim that the department mishandled its oversight of ECOT.

"No one has held ECOT more accountable for the education of students than the Department of Education, and our work to return approximately \$80 million to Ohio's taxpayers continues," she said.

Ms. Halpin said department officials "repeatedly questioned and subsequently rejected portions of ECOT's data."

ECOT closed in January after the State Board of Education voted the previous summer to claw back \$60 million from the school after an audit found it over-reported its full-time enrollment for the 2015-16 school year. The panel earlier this year tacked on another \$19 million to the school's debt, claiming it again overstated enrollment for 2016-17. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 12, 2018)

The e-school has filed two appeals with the Ohio Supreme Court, claiming ODE and the State Board of Education acted improperly in the lead-up to its closure. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 16, 2018)

Along with a referral for possible prosecution, the auditor's office issued a finding for recovery of \$249,962. The amount reflects an invoice submitted to ECOT in 2017 for a political ad buy that eventually was paid by Third Wave Communications, according to the auditor's report.

Mr. Yost said Third Wave Communications shares common ownership with other ECOT-linked businesses, leading auditor's investigators to conclude it paid the invoice in order to disguise ECOT's role in purchasing the advertising, which targeted the ODE and state lawmakers.

Karl Schneider, an attorney representing Third Wave Communications, said in a statement the finding for recovery was "meritless" and the result of a political frenzy around ECOT. He said Third Wave plans to challenge the finding.

"Mile-wide, inch-deep investigations have a tendency to lead to unsubstantiated conclusions that generally fail when tested with evidence in the court system, which is the case here," he said.

The auditor said ECOT officials also declined in April to sign a routine letter stating they provided all information necessary for the completion of the audit and that they had informed auditor's investigators of any possible fraud or illegal actions.

Auditor Yost said he anticipates his office will offer legislative recommendations based on the audit of ECOT, which likely will focus on preventing conflicts of interest and

promoting transparency among e-schools and the companies that manage them. He said the legislature also should look into whether funding such schools based on the time their students spent in class makes sense.

"Online learning needs to go to a learning-based, or achievement-based funding mechanism," he said.

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said Thursday afternoon he is proud of legislation passed in 2015 (HB 233) that overhauled the state's accountability system for charter schools, which he said is working. He said he had not read the auditor's report, but would be open to recommendations from Mr. Yost.

"I'd be happy to sit down with him and talk about that," Mr. Obhof said.

A message seeking comment from ECOT's attorney was not returned prior to deadline.

Democrats Seek To Anchor Republican Candidates To Online School Faulted In Audit

On the day Auditor Dave Yost announced he was referring his audit of the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow's finances to prosecutors, Democrats made hay out of Republicans' ties to the defunct e-school.

Former federal prosecutor Steve Dettelbach, Mr. Yost's Democratic opponent for the office of attorney general, in a series of tweets Thursday again called on Yost to recuse himself from ECOT-related matters and questioned the timeline that led up to the referral.

"Dave Yost's excuses for why he couldn't refer the case are a flat out joke. I was a federal prosecutor for 20 years. Fraud cases don't get better with age," Mr. Dettelbach wrote.

At a press conference for the release of the report, Auditor Yost defended the timing of the referral.

"The criminal referrals always happen at the conclusion or near the conclusion of our work," he said.

David Pepper, chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, said in a statement the auditor's report jibes with Democrats' previous criticisms of charter schools.

"Finally, after years of pretending otherwise, even the Republican auditor of this state is at long last admitting that one of the central policy directions pursued by Republicans in Ohio for nearly two decades turns out to be a fraudulent scam," he said.

Pepper also accused Yost of taking contributions from ECOT, then "(handing) out awards to ECOT like candy and (ignoring) whistleblowers who came to his office."

Mr. Yost said auditor of state awards are "given under objective criteria," adding ECOT received its awards before the Department of Education imposed standards requiring e-schools to provide data on how long their students spent in class.

"The auditor of state's award has nothing to do with how well you're run," he said. "It has specifically and only to do with whether you meet these criteria, and if you meet them, you automatically get the award."

The auditor also denied accusations his office ignored the claims of a whistleblower who went to ODE and the auditor's office last year alleging the school ordered employees to manipulate enrollment data. Mr. Yost said auditor's officials spoke with him twice and reviewed documents he provided to investigators.

"(The whistleblower's) knowledge was insufficient to base a criminal referral (on) at that time," Mr. Yost said, adding that the auditor's office was "already aware of virtually everything that he said" and working on an audit program to review the school.

The Yost campaign also announced it is donating \$29,395 to charity to offset contributions made by people with ties to ECOT to Mr. Yost's state auditor campaign and transition committee in response to the referral for prosecution.

Allison Dumski, spokeswoman for the campaign of Republican auditor candidate Rep. Keith Faber (R-Celina), said in a statement the campaign is donating \$36,513 to "high quality charter schools" to offset donations from ECOT founder Bill Lager to Faber's prior campaigns.

"As made evident by Auditor Yost's report today, ECOT abused the state's public trust, deceived parents, and most importantly, hurt the thousands of students who sought a quality education," Rep. Faber said in a statement. "Thanks to the strong charter school reforms put in place while I was Senate president and the diligent work of Auditor Yost and his staff, ECOT was caught and is out of business."

Mr. Faber's democratic opponent in the auditor's race, former Congressman Zack Space, called for politicians who took contributions from ECOT or related individuals to give them back in a Thursday-morning tweet.

"Finally, a long overdue referral for prosecution, after YEARS of scamming our tax dollars. Many questions remain, but the biggest: what role did political contributions have in creating or perpetuating this scam? Pals who took ECOT \$ should return it," he wrote.

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) in a statement said the auditor's announcement was a case of "better late than never."

"However, I am concerned that the auditor avoided acknowledging his own failures to hold ECOT accountable in the past," he said. "The auditor is well aware that the Ohio Department of Education had the power to ask for detailed student attendance data before 2014. That means the data should have existed and Auditor Yost could have asked for it."

Sen. Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) in a statement called for a bipartisan reform effort in regards to e-schools. He said the legislature could start by considering a measure (SB 39) introduced by Sen. Schiavoni in February.

"It is within the legislature's mandate to create a more efficient and effective education system so that Ohio's children have the opportunity to thrive," he said. "Members of the General Assembly have a moral obligation to work together toward bipartisan e-school reform."

Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) and Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron) sent a letter to Mr. DeWine requesting the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate the e-school.

"Taxpayers, students and their families deserve to know the truth about the extent of ECOT officials' criminal activity to defraud the state out of tens of millions of dollars," the letter stated.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray used the release of the audit as an opportunity to tie his Republican opponent, Attorney General Mike DeWine, to the e-school.

"This is just the latest attempt by Republicans in the Statehouse to whitewash their ECOT scandal," Mr. Cordray said in a statement. "They willfully looked the other way as a billion of our taxpayer dollars went to a politically-connected for-profit charter school instead of to educating Ohio students. In exchange for enabling their scam, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted raked in tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions, while our state, taxpayers and children were being defrauded and mistreated."

Joshua Eck, a spokesman for the DeWine/Husted campaign, said in a statement the auditor's report actually shows Republicans are providing oversight of charter schools.

"Mike DeWine and Jon Husted believe that every dollar we invest in education needs only one priority: Helping our kids get off to a great start in life," he said. "Anyone who tries to manipulate that system should be held to account. It's a shame Richard Cordray doesn't understand how Republicans are already imposing that accountability."

Medicaid Officials Detail Safeguards For Managed Care Expansion

Managed care plans and the Ohio Department of Medicaid said Thursday they're ready for the scheduled July 1 carve-in of behavioral health services, although the agency said it has contingency plans in place to alleviate potential problems.

One point of concern for the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee was one plan's recent struggles meeting the state's prompt pay standards, problems that plans said were not tied to behavioral health.

The move to managed care is the second step in the behavioral health redesign process, and administration officials also argued before JMOC that the first stage - new billing codes - is starting to turn the corner. (*See separate story*)

Although Medicaid officials said they're confident the state's managed care plans will be ready to take on behavioral health services come July, they also detailed a series of safeguards designed to mitigate any issues. (ODM Presentation)

Those protections include a six-month period after the carve-in during which Medicaid members can use any provider for services regardless of who their managed care plan is, said Patrick Stephan, ODM's director of managed care. The period was initially three months but was extended to six months to include an open enrollment period in which members can change managed care plans if they choose.

"Any provider providing services to somebody in the new system will be paid by the managed care plans, no questions asked," Mr. Stephan said.

After that period, providers and plans will still be able to work out single-case agreements if the provider isn't in a plan's network, he said.

Another safeguard is that plans will have to follow the Medicaid program's fee-for-service coverage policies and payment rates through June 30, 2019.

ODM will also develop a post-implementation task force including managed care plans, providers and groups representing providers to identify issues and address them, Mr. Stephan said.

The department will also offer a contingency plan for providers who face problems with billing, similar to a contingency plan offered during the first stage of the redesign, he said. Plans would make a monthly payment for July, August, September and October for providers serving their members equal to 54.6% of the provider's average monthly Medicaid reimbursement in 2016.

Representatives of the five managed care plans told the committee they were each prepared to handle the change in services.

"Improvements for behavioral health in Medicaid will occur July 1 due to managed care carve-in," said Buckeye Health Plan President and CEO Bruce Hill. "Buckeye and the other Medicaid plans have been working closely with our providers for months to ensure a smooth transition."

One managed care organization that JMOC members questioned extensively was CareSource, which is working with ODM to resolve failures to meet the program's prompt pay standards in the second half of 2017.

JMOC Chairman Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville) asked CareSource to provide its plan of action for resolving prompt pay issues to the committee in the next week.

CareSource Ohio President Steve Ringel said the company would comply and had experienced no problems with prompt pay in behavioral health. He told Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) that the problems stemmed from having insufficient staff, and that they largely occurred in primary care. The plan has offered cash advances where there are significant issues with specific providers, he said.

Rep. Antonio asked ODM officials about the remediation process for prompt pay failures.

When the department identifies problems with a plan, it works with them to identify issues and develop a solution to bring them back into compliance, Mr. Stephan said.

Rep. Mark Romanchuk (R-Mansfield) questioned why it has taken several months for ODM to act on CareSource's issues.

"To me, eight months is a long time, so I would encourage the department to potentially move these triggers up, so we're not six, seven, eight months down the road when we're finally acting in a manner that facilitates change," he said.

Mr. Stephan said both the plan and ODM have taken the issue seriously and are working on solutions. He also said they have considered changing the requirements, which currently mandate plans pay 90% of claims within 30 days and 99% within 90 days.

"Through the balance of this process, it is a topic that we are looking into," he said.

Administration Points To Improvements In Behavioral Health Redesign Payments

State Medicaid officials argued Thursday that the first step in the behavioral health redesign process, a move to new billing codes, is beginning to stabilize after some initial uncertainty.

The administration used data covering the first three months of the year to tell members of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee that billing problems are being resolved and that the new system is, in many cases, paying providers more quickly and efficiently than before.

The comments come in response to a survey released last month by the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Service Providers that found many members were receiving

significantly less in overall payments from Medicaid. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 19, 2018)

Greg Moody, director of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation, said that survey, which covered 80% of the council's members, represents about a quarter of providers affected by the behavioral health redesign. (ODM Presentation)

While payments for claims in February were down 20% compared to the previous February, those numbers in January and March were close to the same, with total payments in the first quarter of 2018 down about 7% compared to the same period in 2017, Director Moody said.

When looking at denial rates of claims, Mr. Moody said the 18% denial rate in March was down compared to 28% seen in January, showing providers are working out problems with the new system.

That rate, above the typical denial rate of about 11%, also is inflated because the new coding system is disqualifying claims that previously might otherwise have been paid by Medicaid, including claims that should be paid by other payers, he said. When those claims are eliminated, the denial rate drops to 11% in March and 15% for the first quarter overall, he said.

Many of the denials - about 41% - are coming from 26 providers, which account for 6% of the total number, he said. When they are removed, the denial rate for March drops to 5%. Mr. Moody also pointed out that hospitals, which have more experience with the code sets and the system, experienced a denial rate of 1% for the quarter.

"Many of the early concerns with redesign are being addressed as we look at actual system performance," he said.

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) cited a drop in total behavioral health spending in April, which was not included in Mr. Moody's presentation.

April's spending is affected by a one-week payment delay for the month for all providers in the Medicaid program to keep the program's budget balanced, Mr. Moody said.

"A significant portion of the reduction in April is unrelated to redesign, it's related to a one-week delay in payment," he said.

The council's survey was conducted "at the point of maximum consternation" with the new process, Mr. Moody said.

"Everything in the council survey are things that we flagged to monitor and track because they could be signals of something going wrong," he said.

Sen. Coley said the fact that overall spending in behavioral health remains below last year's total continues to raise red flags.

"From a budgeting standpoint, their concerns are not as overblown as we thought," he said.

Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) asked how much providers are being told about why a certain claim was denied.

"What does that look like moving forward so these folks can actually get what they need and we can actually find out whether this is why they're losing that funding?" she asked.

Medicaid Director Barbara Sears said providers are given codes explaining why a claim was denied, and that with larger denials, the department will reach out to providers to explain.

"I can't have my folks explaining how to bill Medicare or a third party, but what I can tell you is that now that we have moved to a national code set, it's easier for them to bill those services," she said.

The administration's comments didn't quell the Ohio Council's concerns about the plan to move ahead with the next step of the behavioral health redesign. CEO Lori Criss also pointed to prompt payment issues with one managed care plans as raising questions about the planned July 1 managed care carve-in. (*See separate story*)

"Today's discussion at JMOC reinforced that the state, managed care plans, and providers are not yet showing full signs of readiness for a July 1 move to managed care, especially with fewer than 8% of providers shown as being in a position to serve the same capacity that they served last year at this time," she said in an email.

"It's stunning to think that the administration can declare readiness when at the same time revealing that the Ohio Department of Medicaid has known for months but not shared that CareSource, which covers over 50% of Ohioans on Medicaid Managed Care, has violated their timely payment requirements."

Prompted by the council's survey, one Democratic lawmaker also announced Thursday that he would ask ODM to delay the planned carve-in by six months.

"Logistical issues during the rollout of the redesign plan have wreaked havoc on our healthcare providers, threatening care and forcing many to eliminate staff and essential services," Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) said in a statement. "This is especially troublesome at a time when we continue to battle our worst-in-the-nation opioid crisis. Extending Phase I by six months will allow us to iron out the issues and refocus our efforts on what truly matters-delivering quality, affordable healthcare to Ohio families."

Retirement Study Council Approves 2019 Budget

The Ohio Retirement Study Council will see a slight spending increase under a budget approved by members Thursday.

The panel signed off on the \$781,800 budget request with little discussion after council Director Bethany Rhodes walked members through an overview. The annual increase is just above 1%, or \$8,450. The council receives no legislative appropriations and is funded through the plans' investment earnings.

The School Employees Retirement and the State Teachers Retirement systems also presented current drafts of their own budget proposals. Rising insurance costs, additional staff training expenses and increasing bank fees appear to be the common themes. (Committee Documents)

Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville) applauded the ORSC's budget for zeroing out a line item previously put aside for communication products like phones and internet.

Ms. Rhodes explained that because the council relocated to a state office building, it no longer needs to rely on a private vendor for those services. She said, however, that the line item would remain in the budget in case the council should relocate at some point in the future.

Ms. Rhodes said she was also successful in following through on members' prior instructions to attempt to extend the contract of the council's two actuaries - PTA/KMS and RVK - which were to expire in August. She said both agreed to extend the contracts another five years at the current rate.

Other systems: Representatives of the School Employees Retirement System and State Teachers Retirement System shared their own budget projections with the council, although SERS CFO Tracy Valentino said that system's proposal is still a work in progress and will likely be lower when it returns for council consideration.

SERS' proposed operating budget increased 4.3% over the current year, partly attributable to a 4.7% increase in personnel costs and a 5.5% increase in health insurance. All told, the total budget clocks in at just more than \$34 million - up from \$32.9 million the year prior.

Member Thomas Pascarella questioned Ms. Valentino on the increase in banking fees the system has seen. She replied that as the assets grow, so too do the custodial and related fees.

STRS CFO Paul Snyder said the system is eyeing a 2.2% increase - up from \$99.9 million to \$102 million - for its 2019 budget. He said the system has trimmed six full-time equivalent positions thanks to online efficiencies and teacher retirements - a fact Sen. Steve Wilson (R-Maineville) praised.

Recommendations: Senior Research Associate Jeff Bernard outlined staff's recommendation to remove a provision in the Ohio Revised Code requiring Highway Patrol Retirement System to conduct an annual adequacy contribution rate report.

Those reports, Mr. Bernard suggested, are duplicative and costly. The council, he noted, would still have the ability to request such a report if the change were adopted. System Executive Director Mark Atkeson said he supports the proposal.

Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) said the issue will be discussed at the group's next meeting along with whether similar requirements for other systems should likewise be eliminated.

The council also voted to recommend lawmakers modify maximum statutory penalties for systems failing to transmit either employee or employer contributions.

State Offers Guidance On Mental Health, Firearms; Chronic Pain Rule Available For Comment...

The Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services issued guidance this week to help mental health practitioners with questions surrounding mental illness and firearms.

The memo comes as the debate over firearms and particularly mass shootings continues at the state and federal level.

ODMHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst wrote to providers that the discussion demonstrates the important role they play in the conversation and in the prevention of violence.

Statistics show a relatively small number of violent acts directed toward others are committed by people with mental illness, and that people with mental illness are much more likely to use firearms to take their own lives, he wrote.

"When individuals with certain mental illnesses are actively experiencing symptoms, they may be impulsive, misperceive reality and have impaired judgment. If firearms are available, the risk to themselves and others increases markedly," he wrote.

"Health care providers have no duty more important than to maintain the wellness and safety of patients, families and the communities where they reside. This duty is accomplished by providing effective treatment for psychiatric disorders and substance use problems, as well as remembering our duty to address the risk that exists from access to firearms for those under mental health treatment."

Dr. Hurst recommended patients and their families be advised of the risks posed by firearm access, and the importance of mitigating them. He also stressed the importance of ensuring relevant documents are submitted to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation in the case of an involuntary commitment.

"While our clinical interventions alone will not eliminate all firearm-related injuries and deaths, they most certainly eliminate some of them," he wrote. "Even one life saved is worth it."

Chronic Pain Rules: The Ohio State Dental Board posted draft rules of proposed new regulations on the prescribing of opioid medications for chronic and subacute pain.

The proposed rules were announced last week by Gov. John Kasich and medical professional boards. They create a framework of checkpoints for prescribers when authorizing progressively stronger doses of opioid pain relievers. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 2, 2018)

Comments on the rules can be sent to the dental board via email with the rule number in the subject line, and with the Common Sense Initiative copied on the email. Comments will be accepted through Friday, May 18.

The board also expects to hold a public hearing on the rule in July.

Medicaid Waivers: A report by Policy Matters Ohio questioned research cited by federal health care regulators in supporting Medicaid waivers imposing work requirements on certain members.

PMO claimed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services misstated or misinterpreted the findings of various academic studies in justifying a move toward additional work requirements for Medicaid members.

"Medicaid's mission is to improve the health of Americans struggling to make ends meet," Wendy Patton, PMO senior project director, said in a statement. "Good health is a precondition for work, not a reward for it. Nothing in academic literature justifies CMS's plan. In fact, in many cases, the research shows why this policy is flawed."

Agency Briefs: AG Approves Petition For Legalized Pot Issue; Arts Council Gets Nearly \$1 Million NEA Grant; Auditor; ODA; DAS

A resubmitted petition summary for a ballot issue to legalize marijuana in Ohio was approved Thursday by Attorney General Mike DeWine.

Backers of the proposed constitutional amendment, titled "Marijuana Rights and Regulations," will be cleared to begin collecting signatures after the Ohio Ballot Board determines whether the language requires a single or multiple issues.

Mr. DeWine's office determined that, unlike the committee's first attempt, the new petition summary represented "a fair and truthful statement of the proposed law."

Under the proposed amendment, which also prescribes how governments can restrict the use of marijuana in ways similar to alcohol-related laws, a new Ohio Constitution section would "endow the Rights of persons in Ohio age 21 and older to possess, cultivate, process, use, transport, sell, purchase and share marijuana in Ohio...."

Ohio Arts Council: For the ninth consecutive year, OAC is celebrating the award of the second-largest partnership agreement grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The \$995,800 received to help support arts initiatives throughout the state tops the amount granted to larger states such as Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois and Pennsylvania, OAC reported. (Details)

"Ohio has a long tradition of securing nearly \$1 million annually through the State and Regional Partnership Agreement program from the National Endowment for the Arts. We are proud to receive the largest award in the Midwest and the second largest award in the nation, OAC Executive Director Donna S. Collins said in a statement.

"Every dollar we earn from the NEA is invested in the arts statewide through our grantees. The federal investment in the arts in Ohio is important, not just the Ohio Arts Council grant award, but the 16 grants given this cycle in a variety of categories to arts organizations across Ohio."

State Auditor: Dave Yost has placed the Village of Bridgeport in Belmont County on the state's "unauditable" list due to a lack of documentation.

"During the course of the regular financial audit of the Village of Bridgeport for the period Jan. 1, 2016, through Dec. 31, 2017, the Auditor of State's office determined that the condition of the village's financial records was not adequate to complete the audit," his office reported. In a letter to the village, the Auditor's office provided a list of information required to complete the audit.

"Complete financial records shine a light on local governments," Auditor Yost said in a release. "Taxpayers should not be left in the dark on how their dollars are being spent."

The village has 90 days to respond to the letter by revising its financial records and providing the required data. Failure to do so could result in legal action.

In a separate release, Mr. Yost announced that Nicholas Szabo, the former city auditor of London in Madison County, pleaded guilty to theft in office "for his failure to reimburse the city for his health insurance costs and for an unauthorized pay increase for a fellow employee."

Mr. Szabo resigned in December. The auditor said he will be sentenced on the fourth-degree felony violation on June 7.

Mr. Yost also announced this week that a special audit of Mt. Sterling was recognized by the National State Auditors Association with an Excellence in Accountability Award.

"The award recognizes the office's work in uncovering extensive corruption and almost \$1 million in illegal spending at the small Madison County village," his office reported. "The special audit was instrumental in securing the convictions of four administrators

and employees, including former Mayor Charles Neff and former Village Administrator Joseph Johnson."

"The exemplary professionals of my office continually get results - and justice - for Ohio's taxpayers," Auditor Yost said. "This recognition from their peers is evidence of the first-rate work rooted in every audit and investigation they perform."

Department of Agriculture: The agency reported Thursday that an invasive species of hemlock-killing insects had been discovered in Adams County.

The hemlock woolly adelgid, an aphid-like Asian insect first reported in the U.S. in 1951, has devastated the trees in areas along the Appalachian Mountains and has been detected in 20 states.

The infestation in Adams County was discovered through the survey work being conducted by the ODNR Division of Forestry in Shawnee State Forest. The bugs were first detected in a forested setting in Ohio in Meigs County in 2012, the agency reported.

"At this time, ODA will move to expand its hemlock quarantine, enforced by ODA's Plant Health division, to include Adams County," ODA reported. "Ohio quarantine regulations restrict the movement of hemlock materials from areas known to be infested with HWA into non-infested Ohio counties. Ohio's quarantine law also requires hemlock materials to be inspected and officially certified before being shipped, verifying that the plant material is free of HWA when entering Ohio."

The agency separately announced that aerial treatments designed to control the gypsy moth population would begin soon in 54 acres in Franklin County. The treatments are administered using a low-flying aircraft and will likely take place during early morning hours, ODA said.

The department said it will use Foray (Btk), a naturally occurring bacterium found in the soil that interferes with the caterpillars' feeding cycles, adding that the substance is not toxic to humans, pets, birds or fish.

Administrative Services: The state will hold next miscellaneous surplus property auction on Saturday at the DAS General Services Division headquarters, 4200 Surface Rd. in Columbus.

Scaffolding and a Delta RS-15 shaper are among the unique items being sold at the auction, which also features "a wide variety of computer equipment (e.g., laptops, monitors and printers) and electronic appliances (e.g., copiers, digital cameras, DVD players, audio and video equipment and mobile radios).

Doors open at 8 a.m. and the auction begins at 9 a.m. More details are available on the DAS website.

Governor's Appointments

State Dental Board: Andrew W. Zucker, DDS of Sandusky for a term beginning May 10, 2018, and ending April 6, 2022 and Canise Y. Bean, DMD, MPH of Columbus and Faisal A. Quereshy, MD, DDS of Richfield for terms beginning May 10, 2018, and ending April 6, 2022.

University of Akron Board of Trustees: Cindy P. Crotty of Cleveland Heights has been appointed to the for a term beginning May 10, 2018, and ending July 1, 2026.

Gongwer Statehouse Job Market Updated

Gongwer's Statehouse Job Market has been updated. The update is available on the Gongwer website.

Subscribers interested in posting job openings on Gongwer's employment board can send job descriptions and other information to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, May 14

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 15

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 16

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 17

Aerospace & Aviation Technology Committee, Rm. 017, Statehouse, Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, May 11

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Small Government Capital Improvements Commission, OWDA offices, 480 S. High St., Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

Event Planner

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

17 S. High St., Suite 630

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 5/11/2018

Monday, May 14

Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 644-6030), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15

Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:30 a.m.

- SB 275** **NURSE ANESTHETISTS (Burke, D.)** Regarding the authority of certified registered nurse anesthetists to administer drugs in addition to anesthesia and to select and order certain other drugs. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 247** **PERS HEALTH CARE (Dolan, M.)** To require the Public Employees Retirement System to permit certain spouses of retired or deceased members to continue receiving allowances to pay for health care expenses under the System's group health care plans. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 263** **NOTARY PUBLIC (Huffman, M., Wilson, S.)** To enact the Notary Public Modernization Act. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 265** **PHARMACY SERVICES (Dolan, M.)** To permit certain health insurers to provide payment or reimbursement for services lawfully provided by a pharmacist and to recognize pharmacist services in certain other laws. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SB 273** **RATING AGENCIES (Hackett, B.)** To enact for the Revised Code a definition of the term "rating agency." (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m.
- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of John Adams, CFA, Ohio Higher Educational Facility Commission; Rachel Bankowitz and Donald Brogan, RA, Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board; Charles Bills, Owens State Community College Board of Trustees; Thomas Carroll, Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee; Rachel Cummings, Southern State Community College Board of Trustees; Matthew Davis, Ohio Business Gateway Steering Committee; Terrence Fergus, Cleveland State University Board of Trustees; Charles George, Youngstown State University Board of Trustees; Matthew Kirby, CFP, Ohio Tuition Trust Authority; Gary Lindgren and David Scholl, Third Frontier Commission; Austin McClain, Ohio University Board of Trustees; Jill Neff and Joshua Smith, Rio Grande Community College Board of Trustees and Rick Ritzler, Columbus State Community College Board of Trustees
- SB 296** **LAW ENFORCEMENT BENEFITS (LaRose, F., Hottinger, J.)** To revise the payments that surviving family members receive from the Ohio Public Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund and to permit surviving spouses and children to participate in the health, dental, and vision benefits offered to state employees as if the survivors were employees of this state. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 318** **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.)** To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers, to require the

- Facilities Construction Commission to study and report on school building security upgrades and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 299** **WATER IMPROVEMENTS** (Gardner, R., O'Brien, S.) To allow equipment for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie to be purchased with proceeds from the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund, and to appropriate funds for projects enhancing water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- HB 353** **UNCLAIMED FUNDS** (Reineke, B.) To exempt certain open-loop prepaid cards, closed-loop prepaid cards, and rewards cards from the Unclaimed Funds Law. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- SB 246** **STUDENT REMOVAL** (Lehner, P., Manning, G.) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
- House Federalism & Interstate Relations (Committee Record) (Chr. Roegner, K., 466-1177), Rm. 115, 4 p.m.
- HB 580** **GRANT APPLICATIONS** (Thompson, A.) To establish procedures that executive agencies must follow when applying for grants, to require the Governor to approve any major grant application, and to permit the Governor to disapprove any minor grant application. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 26** **JERUSALEM** (Faber, K., Keller, C.) To recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 228** **GUN LAWS** (Johnson, T., LaTourette, S.) To assign to the prosecution the burden of disproving a self-defense or related claim, to expand the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law, and to modify the Concealed Handgun Licensing Law regarding a licensee's duty to keep the licensee's hands in plain sight, the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed firearm or improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle, and the posting of warning signs regarding the possession of weapons on specified premises. (6th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 85** **HEALTH CARE COMPACT** (Retherford, W.) To enter into the Health Care Compact. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- House Education & Career Readiness (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 644-6711), Rm. 121, 4 p.m.
- HB 544** **SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS** (Rogers, J., Perales, R.) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- SB 216** **SCHOOL REGULATIONS** (Huffman, M.) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 517** **MONTH DESIGNATION** (Schaffer, T., Leland, D.) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 540** **TEACHER EVALUATIONS** (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.) With regard to teacher evaluations. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 591** **SCHOOL REPORT CARDS** (Duffey, M.) To revise the state report card rating system for school districts and public schools. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent-Possible substitute-Pending referral)
- Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hackett, B., 466-3780), South Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.
- HB 392** **APIARY DAMAGES** (Stein, D.) To grant specified apiary owners immunity in personal injury or property damage cases involving bee stings. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 506** **DOG BREEDERS** (Hill, B.) To revise the law governing high volume dog breeders. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

Wednesday, May 16

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9 a.m.

- SB 135** **VOTING EQUIPMENT** (LaRose, F.) To make supplemental operating appropriations for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium and supplemental capital appropriations for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium to implement a voting machine and equipment acquisition program. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent-Pending referral)
- Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11:15 a.m.
- House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 3 p.m. or after session
- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Timothy Staup, Motor Vehicle Salvage Dealers Licensing Board and Norman Lane, State Fire Council

- SB 293** **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS** (Peterson, B., McColley, R.) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 295** **ROAD NAMING** (Hottinger, J.) To designate a portion of State Route 93 in Tuscarawas County as the "PFC Oscar F. Nicewander Memorial Highway" and a portion of State Route 520 in Holmes County as the "Cpl. Jerry Robert Spitler Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), South Hearing Rm., 3:15 p.m. or after session
- HB 360** **BULLYING** (Greenspan, D.) To enact the "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and public colleges. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 87** **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.)** Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 438** **ESC BOARDS (Hambley, S., Kick, D.)** To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards, to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions, and to authorize educational service centers to establish local professional development committees. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 21** **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Hambley, S.)** Regarding verification of community school enrollments. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- House Aging & Long Term Care (Committee Record) (Chr. Arndt, S., 644-6011), Rm. 113, 3:30 p.m. or after session
- HB 527** **VISITATION RIGHTS (LaTourette, S.)** To allow certain specified persons to petition the probate court for reasonable visitation with an incompetent or ward if visitation between the person and the incompetent or ward has been interfered with or denied. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 572** **RETIREMENT CREDIT (Scherer, G., Howse, S.)** Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 158** **ELDER FRAUD (Wilson, S.)** To develop best practices and educational opportunities to combat elder fraud and exploitation and to fine and require full restitution from offenders who are found guilty of certain fraud-related crimes against the elderly. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Thursday, May 17

Joint Ohio College Affordability Committee (Chr. Wilson, S., 466-9739), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- Presentation from Chancellor John Carey on past and current initiatives to reduce the cost of college education
- ~~Canceled: House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 466-3357), House Chamber, 4 p.m.~~

- If needed

Tuesday, May 22

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

- If needed
- Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- If needed

Wednesday, May 23


Joint Education Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Manning, G., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 8:30 a.m.

- Presentation by State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria and update on progress of other research projects (tentative)
- Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 24

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1 p.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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From: Joseph Weitz

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 10:23 AM

Subject: Weekly Wrap 5/11/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio
- Schools on the Primary Ballot

Connect with us!



PBL Ohio Institute

July 25-27, 2018

Pre-Conference *Project Slice*

July 24, 2018



Week of May 11, 2018

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

JUMP TO A SECTION

FEATURED ITEMS

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Central Ohio Schools

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Early Learning
Career- & Postsecondary-Readiness
Postsecondary & Workforce Development
Leadership

OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE

House Bills
Senate Bills

FEATURED ITEMS

SCHOOLS ON THE PRIMARY BALLOT – *Statewide, Ohio voters approved 68% of school levies on this week's primary ballot, according to preliminary results compiled by the Ohio School Boards Association. Half of new levies were passed (23 of 46) while the passage rate for renewals was 87% (40 of 46).*

Ohioans Approved 68% of School Levies in Tuesday's Election – Columbus Dispatch

- Statewide, voters approved 68 percent of the school levies on the primary ballot, passing 63 of 92 tax requests, according to unofficial results compiled by the Ohio School Boards Association

Most School Levies Pass – Hannah

- Ohio school districts saw a large majority of funding issues on the Tuesday ballot pass, though the success rate was slightly lower than in the last primary election

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OHIO

Central Ohio Schools

Voters in Five of Eight Central Ohio School Districts Approve Tax Issues – Columbus Dispatch

- Central Ohio school districts had mixed success in Tuesday's primary election, winning passage of five ballot requests out of eight in Franklin and neighboring counties in final, unofficial results

High School Opening in Fall for Those Recovering from Drug, Alcohol Addictions – Columbus Dispatch

- Forty recovery high schools have been established across the country, with more proposed, according to the Houston-based Association of Recovery Schools. A school's staff usually includes substance-abuse and mental-health counselors as well as teachers and administrators trained to support this unique student population and help their families

Best High Schools Rankings: Ohio High Schools – US News & World Report

- Of the numerous Ohio schools ranked in 2018 among the U.S. News Best High Schools, 19 were awarded gold medals, 111 earned silver medals and 183 received bronze medals

Tour Company Bugs Out, Leaving Local Middle-Schoolers in Limbo – Columbus Dispatch

- The Ohio attorney general's office is looking into a Cleveland-area tour company that took tens of thousands of dollars from several Ohio public schools for pre-paid trips to Washington, D.C., and elsewhere this spring but failed to deliver

CHILLICOTHE CITY SCHOOLS

Chillicothe City Schools Voters Reject Levy Request – Chillicothe Gazette

- The next time Chillicothe City Schools voters are likely to see an attempt to pass an operational levy that failed Tuesday will come in November

City Schools Eye Expanding Police Presence Next Year – Chillicothe Gazette

- The Chillicothe Board of Education is reviewing the dollars and cents involved with having a Chillicothe Police officer in both its primary and intermediate school buildings next year, as well as in the high school/middle school campus

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

One Ohio School's Quest to Rethink Bad Behavior – The Atlantic

- Rather than enforcing a top-down mandate, the school trains teachers in the science behind trauma and leaves the rest up to them

Columbus Middle School the Latest Victim of Bankrupt Tour Company – Columbus Dispatch

- Cleveland-area Discovery Tours collected more than \$51,000 in payments since December from the families of Ridgeview Middle School students, before company officials disappeared without a word last week. The tour company filed for bankruptcy Monday

DUBLIN CITY SCHOOLS

Dublin Schools Survey: Voters Would Back Taxes for Facilities – This Week

- The Dublin City School District's latest community survey indicates a majority of those polled would support a November request for funding for new facilities and other improvements

Collaboration Produces Robot – This Week

- This year at Dublin Coffman High School, organized collaboration was a new ingredient for producing a robot for the annual FIRST Robotics competition

Health Curriculum Important Part of a Dublin Education – This Week From the Superintendent's Desk

- Todd Hoadley, superintendent of the Dublin City Schools, writes that this year they spent time reviewing their K-12 health curriculum

GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Voters in Five of Eight Central Ohio School Districts Approve Tax Issues – Columbus Dispatch

- Gahanna-Jefferson schools sailed to success on Tuesday, with its combined 30-year bond issue and permanent operating levy passing 63 to 37 percent

Voters Say Yes to Gahanna-Jefferson Bond/Levy Combo – This Week

- Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District residents said yes to a new elementary school and improvements to other school buildings by approving Issue 2 in the May primary

Gahanna-Jefferson Unions, District Crafting Agreements – This Week

- The Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education has been in talks with the Gahanna-Jefferson Education Association and the Ohio Association of Public Employees about health-care benefits and a need to address existing and projected shortfalls in funding

GROVEPORT MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Board Hopes to Name Superintendent by May 30 – This Week

- After spending two days this week interviewing eight candidates, the Groveport Madison Board of Education is on track with its timeline for hiring a new superintendent, according Jeff Warner, district communications director